Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXII, Issue No. 173 | **MONDAY** JULY 23, 2012 | www.saipantribune.com | 50¢

2 World War II veterans visiting Tinian, Saipan. PAGE 2
Head Start looking for 30 kids to complete enrollment quota. PAGE 6

POLL RESULTS

Tasi Tours has an exclusive concession on Mañagaha Island. Should other operators be allowed to drop Saipan-booked package tours on Mañagaha and then pick up their customers to resume their tours later in the day?

Yes	191
No	37
Undecided	6
No opinion	3

Sunday, July 22, 2012

INSIDE

NATION

Police now say that James Holmes planned the Colorado massacre for months ➤ PAGE 14

FOCUS

Megan Saunders remembers thinking: "I don't want my friends to die on my birthday." ➤ PAGE 17

LIFE & STYLE

The movie industry grapples with the shooting at a screening of "The Dark Knight Rises." ➤ PAGE 19

Syed: CW permit holder can't get CW visa

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Syed

United Workers Movement-NMI president Rabby Syed said yesterday that a Bangladeshi security guard with an approved Commonwealth-only worker permit couldn't get a CW visa at the U.S. Embassy in Bangladesh for almost two months now despite going through the application process. Instead, he was told to wait until the embassy gets a lot of information about the transitional CW program.

See CW VISA on Page 4

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
File photo shows Saipan Mayor's Office employee Laurence Fleming, in a boom truck bucket, using a chain saw to trim branches of pine trees along Beach Road in Chalan Laulau.

Two portraits of Colorado shooting suspect emerge

By MARISOL BELLO, ELIZABETH WEISE, SUSAN GEMBROWSKI
USA TODAY

SAN DIEGO—A portrait of two distinct people is slowly emerging of James Eagan Holmes, the quiet, intellectually gifted neuroscience student turned suspected mass murderer.

Those who knew Holmes in the upscale San Diego community where he grew up remember a polite young man who kept to himself and excelled academically.

"He was really talented, really smart," said Porsche Parkman, 19, who attended Westview High School with Holmes' younger sister, Chris. Holmes graduated from the school in 2006. "He was so nice

See SUSPECT on Page 4

AP
The American flag is seen at half-staff over the White House in Washington, Friday, July 20, 2012. President Barack Obama ordered the flag to be lowered in the aftermath of the tragic mass shooting at a movie theater in Aurora, Colo.

Mayor's Office staff breaks back in fall

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

» **Bucket truck's arm breaks, plunging 60 to 70 feet to building's rooftop edge**

A staff of the Saipan Mayor's Office who was cutting branches of pine trees on Capital Hill Thursday afternoon on a bucket truck suffered severe injuries to the spinal cord when the truck's arm suddenly broke, plunging him 60 to 70 feet to the edge of a rooftop of a one-story government building.

The only thing that stopped Lawrence Fleming from crashing to the ground was the safety harness that was wrapped around his body and hooked to the truck, *Saipan Tribune* learned from witnesses.

See FALL on Page 4

Senate panel: Revised Medicaid plan creates more problems for CHC

» **Senators eye more money for Medicaid in FY 2013 budget**
» **Lack of info prompts senators to hold public hearing**

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Senate Committee on Health and Welfare will bring together Medicaid officials and patients to a question-and-answer session, citing "frustration" with the lack of information about the revised Medicaid state plan that now requires, among other things, Medicaid patients to seek certification first from the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. that certain services are not available at CHC before being allowed to go to private clinics and pharmacies.

Some optional services are also

See CHC on Page 4

Local

Two World War II veterans visiting Tinian, Saipan

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Two World War II veterans who saw action in the Marianas will be visiting Tinian and Saipan this week, CNMI historian Don Farrell and Pacific Development Inc. director Gordon Marciano.

"They will be coming back here for the first time since the war based on the information we got so far. They served in the U.S. Navy during the time," Marciano told *Saipan Tribune* last night.

One of them is Jesse Loma, who served aboard a destroyer that shelled Saipan, Tinian, and Guam during the war, said Farrell.

The second one is Claud B. ""CB" Martin Jr., who served with the 56th Naval Construction Battalion or the Seabees, he added.

They are part of a 14-member group that will be brought here by Military Historical Tours, Marciano said.

Marciano said retired U.S. Marine Maj. Rick Spooner was supposed to be a part of the tour too but had to stay behind because of health concerns. He said Spooner plans to join a March 2013 tour.

Spooner was part of the 2nd U.S. Marine Division that, along with the 4th Marine Division, invaded Japanese-held Saipan on June 15, 1944. He visited the Marianas last year.

Marciano said the veterans will be on Tinian for three days starting tonight and will be on Saipan on Wednesday night. He said there will be a wreath-laying ceremony at American Memorial Park on Thursday at 2:30pm, and he's inviting the public to join.

"On Saipan, they will be staying at Pacific Islands Club. PDI is the one handling the ground tours. The American Memorial Park and Marianas Visitors Authority are assisting as well. We also thank private land owners for opening their sites [for the military tour].

Farrell said one of the two veterans is a "Seabee who was present for the surrender of Rota and has some photographs with him, including one of the Japanese officer in charge saluting and American officer at the surrender."

"The other veteran was on a destroyer that took part in the shore bombardment of all three islands, Saipan, Tinian and Guam," he added.

DESPITE RESIGNING FROM CHC

Raho to keep corp. health board post

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Anthony Raho will remain on the board of Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. representing the non-physician sector after he accepted the request of the board to continue serving despite exiting from the Commonwealth Health Center.

Raho was the Commonwealth Health Center's in-house pharmacist and was elected by his peers to represent their voices on the corporation board. He quit his job at the hospital early this month to join a private clinic as its pharmacist.

Corporation board chair Joaquin Torres told *Saipan Tribune* that, in his opinion, Raho can continue his term on the board despite not being employed at the hospital because he was elected by a majority of non-physicians. Torres said the law that created the corporation did not stipulate that non-physician representative to the board should specifically come from the public hospital.

"I don't believe there's a requirement [in the law] that you have to be an employee of CHC. All it requires is for the member to be elected by non-physicians [at the hospital]. If those employees still feel that Raho can adequately represent them, it's fine with the board," Torres said.

He said that after reviewing the law's mandate, he wrote Raho and asked him to continue on the board.

"He's an effective member and I value his input in a lot of issues before the board. I believe Mr. Raho represented his peers very well and as long as employees are satisfied with his performance, I am for it," said Torres, adding that the board hasn't heard any employee wishing to replace Raho on the post.

Raho confirmed receiving Torres' letter and said that if it's the wish of the board, he will continue to serve on the board.

To forestall any legal issues, Raho said he sought the legal opinion of the corporation's lawyer but there has been no response yet.

According to Torres, absent the legal opinion, Raho should continue his term as his membership is still in good standing. "But I believe, there's no need for a legal opinion because the law is very clear," he added.

Raho started working at the public hospital in August 1996 as staff pharmacist. Three months later, he was promoted to director of the Pharmacy Section. When the corporation took over in October last year, he was elected to represent the non-physician employees of CHC.

With Raho's departure, CHC is left with only one inpatient pharmacist and the corporation is in the process of bringing in a locum pharmacist. Since Raho's departure, the hospital's inpatient pharmacy was ordered closed during weekends.

Got Diabetes?
"You Need an Eye Exam Every Year"
Because Diabetes May Be Stealing Your Sight
Even though you are seeing perfectly well
Don't let diabetes win.
Visit the Center for Advanced Diabetic Eye Care
Don't Wait until It's Too Late
Mark Robertson, OD
Magna Cum Lade
Specializing in Diabetic Retinopathy Evaluation
Comprehensive Medical Eye Care
Vision Care
David Khorram, MD
America's Top Ophthalmologists
Specializing in Retinal and Diabetic Eye Disease
Advance Cataract Surgery with Lens Implant
Complex Eye Disease
Marianas Eye Institute
"Where Technology Meets Talent"
235-9090
Beach Road, Garapan
www.MarianasEye.com
One-Hour Glasses • Contacts • Medical Eye Care
Advance Surgery and Laser
We accept: Aetna, Staywell, Moylan's, TakeCare, Medicaid, Medicare, Calvos' and more.
If you can't pay for your care, the Eye Foundation Fund helps cover your costs.

Guam lawyer lists 60 witnesses in defense vs Hillbroom suit

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Veteran Guam lawyer David J. Lujan has listed 60 potential witnesses in his defense against a lawsuit filed by a former client, Junior Larry Hillbroom, and in his complaint against Hillbroom's former trustee.

Theodore W. Frank, counsel for Lujan, said the potential witnesses are based in the U.S. mainland, Hawaii, Guam, Palau, Cook Islands, Vietnam, and the Philippines.

Among the potential witnesses are Hillbroom and his mother, Kaelani Kinney who is in Palau, and former FBI special agent Douglas E. Small, who is now in Washington D.C.

Also included as potential witnesses are Guam police officers involved in Hillbroom's arrest in the past for a criminal case.

Hillbroom is the reported DNA-proven son of the late business tycoon Larry Lee Hillblom. He reportedly lives now in Idaho.

Frank disclosed the identity of Lujan's potential witnesses in the pre-discovery disclosure statement filed last week in the U.S. District Court for the NMI.

In the disclosure statement, also listed are description of documents of 23 files and records, including those belonging to Lujan, Hillbroom's investments, and former Hillbroom trustee Keith A. Waibel.

Hillbroom is suing his former lawyers Lujan and Barry Israel in district court for allegedly conspiring to inflate their contingency fee when Hillblom's fortune was still undergoing probate proceedings. He also named Waibel as co-defendant.

Waibel filed a third-party complaint against Israel and Lujan so that in the event he is found liable in Hillbroom's lawsuit, he could claim for indemnity and contribution from Israel and Lujan.

Lujan in turn, filed a third party complaint against Waibel for indemnity and contribution in case the court finds him liable in Hillbroom's lawsuit.

Last month, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona dismissed Waibel's lawsuit against Israel, who is now based in Vietnam.

Manglona agreed with Israel that the court lacks specific jurisdiction over the lawyer on Waibel's cross claims because, first and foremost, Waibel was never a resident of the CNMI.

Last January, Manglona dismissed for lack of personal jurisdiction Hillbroom's lawsuit against Israel.

Manglona, however, denied Lujan's motion to dismiss Waibel's cross-complaint filed against him.

Manglona ruled that Lujan's improper-venue defense is meritless.

Talk about sex ends in domestic violence

A man talking about sex with his former wife allegedly triggered a domestic violence incident with his girlfriend last week.

Albert Deleon Guerrero, 43, allegedly pulled his girlfriend's hair and punched and slapped her. He was arrested for assault and battery and disturbing the peace. His bail was set at $2,000 cash.

Police detective JB Cepeda stated in his report that a police officer was dispatched to Chalan Lau Lau on Monday, July 16, at 10:34pm in response to an alleged domestic incident near the Green Consume Market II.

Cepeda said that, according to the victim, she and Deleon Guerrero were going to Koblerville to pick up their three-month-old twins when Deleon Guerrero began talking about how he had sex with his former wife.

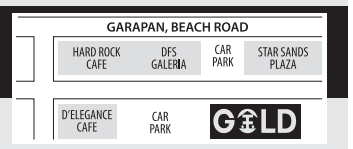
The victim said she became upset so she pulled the steering wheel twice to crash the car, causing Deleon Guerrero to become upset. He allegedly punched her, slapped her twice, and pulled her hair. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

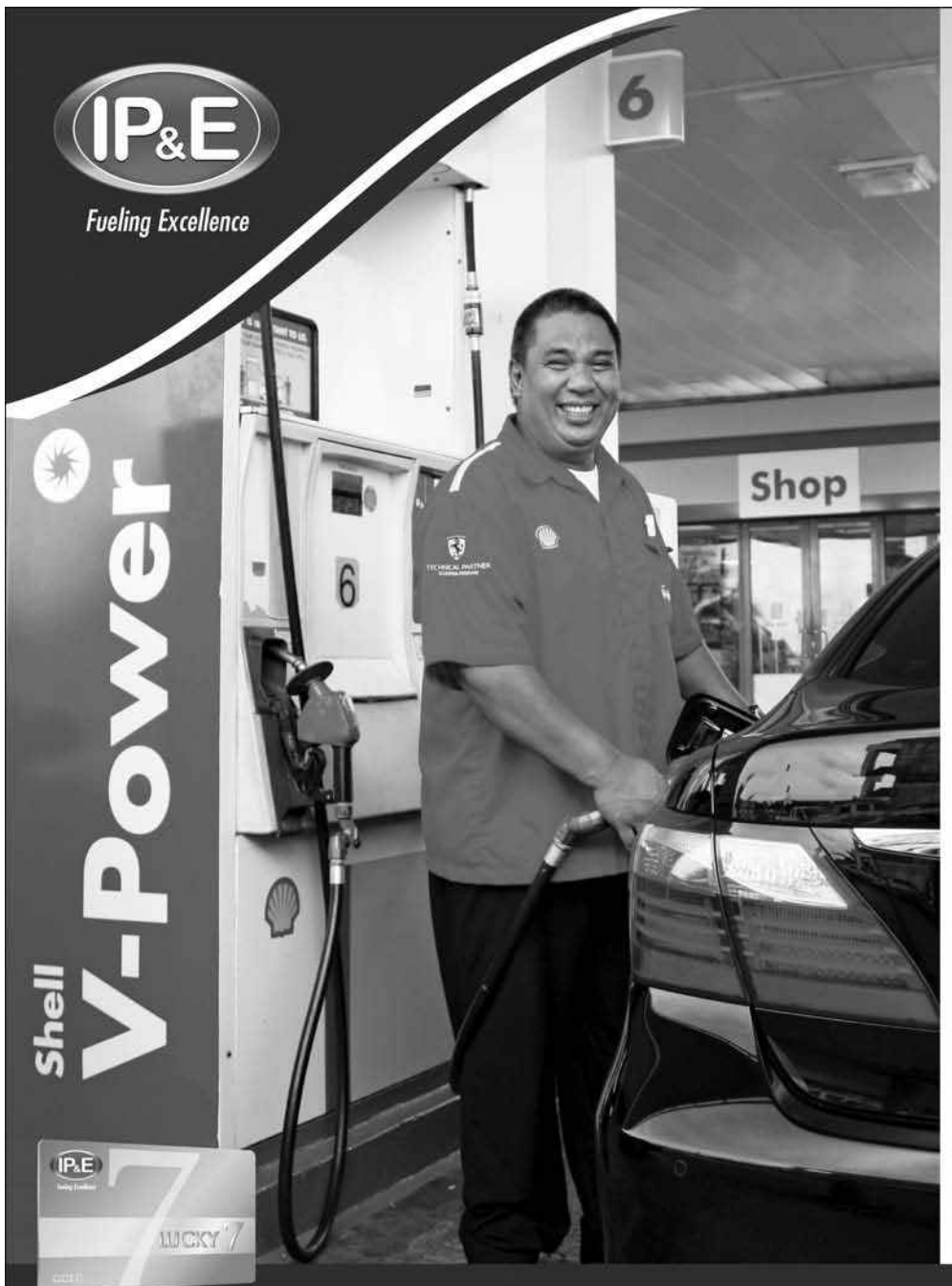
VISIT YTT GOLD Jewelry 元通金行 TODAY

Exchange your unwanted, damage, outdated and worn gold for CASH!

- Bring any GOLD items to our store in Garapan
- Our Consultants will test and value you GOLD items
- We will give you CASH on the spot!

Tel. No.: 233-2368 | Business Hours: 10:00am - 8:00pm | Sunday Closed
Located behind Duty Free and Star Sands Plaza





GO FOR THE GOLD

SIGN UP. GAS UP. AND WIN!

1 TON SHELL V-POWER® PREMIUM GASOLINE!

YOU COULD ALSO WIN:

- 200,000 United MileagePlus® Award Miles
- United Round Trip Tickets (U.S. or Asia)
- iPad 3 or Mifis with service
- $800 IT&E gift certificates

WAYS TO ENTER

W/ YOUR LUCKY 7 GOLD CARD:

- Gas up or sign up for the NEW Lucky 7 Gold Card
- Buy IT&E Products at Shell Stations
- Buy Shell V-Power Premium Gas get 2 entries

No purchase necessary. Rules and conditions apply. See store for details.

MileagePlus. UNITED
IT&E Life in Motion
Shell Licensee
Shell trademarks used under license by IP&E.

Rota casino commission owes former executive director $60,000

Former Rota Casino Gaming Commission executive director Alfredo Antolin is asking Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos to veto a local bill appropriating $13,000 to the commission for its operations and activities for fiscal year 2012 because he said the bill does not include past due payments of more than $60,000 owed him.

Antolin said the amount includes past due salary and reimbursement.

He said he has not gotten paid since July 2011.

"The executive director should be included in this appropriation," he added.

House Local Bill 17-83, introduced by Rep. Teresita Santos (Ind-Rota), is now with the governor after the Rota Legislative Delegation passed it on first and final reading on July 12.

Of the $13,000 being appropriated for the Rota Casino Gaming Commission, $5,000 will be for legal counsel, $7,500 for commissioners' compensation, and $500 for operations.

Right now, however, there is no operating casino on Rota. The one that has a license stopped operations temporarily. ***(Haidee V. Eugenio)***

SUSPECT

From Page 1

and his family was always there for him. Nothing seemed wrong."

Her description of the 24-year-old seen with a ready smile in his high school yearbook photo stands in stark contrast to the 6-foot-tall gunman dressed in head-to-toe black body armor who police say opened fire with multiple weapons in a crowded suburban Denver movie theater, killing 12 people and wounding 58.

Police portray a suspect intent on killing, taking the violence even further when he booby-trapped his apartment to kill the first person to enter, most likely a police officer.

"This apartment was designed to kill," said Aurora Police Chief Daniel Oates. He said Holmes had a "high volume" of deliveries of materials and ammunition that could explain the aerial shells, trip wires and other explosive devices found in his apartment.

"What we're seeing here is some evidence, I think, of calculation and deliberation," Oates said Saturday. "If you think we are angry, we sure as hell are angry."

In the six months before the shooting, police said Holmes bought at least 6,000 rounds of ammunition, an AR 15 assault rifle, a Remington shotgun and two 40-caliber Glock handguns. He bought them legally, according to a federal law enforcement official who was not authorized to speak publicly.

Oates said Holmes used a rifle, shotgun and one of the handguns during the attack.

At the same time that authorities say he was buying ammunition and weapons, Holmes was in the process of dropping out of the University of Colorado's neuroscience program in Aurora. He had joined the program a year ago, but by June he had withdrawn, the university said in a statement. Dan Meyers, spokesman for the University of Colorado School of Medicine, would not say why he left.

Oates said the FBI Behavioral Analysis Unit is working with local police to figure out a motive for the shooting.

Holmes seems to have little online presence. Unlike many people his age, he does not have accounts on Twitter, Facebook or other social media.

University of Colorado biology student Kaitlyn Fonzi, who lives below Holmes in a student-housing complex in northern Aurora, had seen Holmes in the building several times and remembers a student who looked like any other on the medical and academic campus across the street from their apartment.

"You never really think anything like this is going to happen," Fonzi said after the building was evacuated when police tried to defuse the trip wires they said Holmes set up.

In Rancho Peñasquitos, an upper-middle-class community of picturesque hacienda-style homes surrounded by hills and canyons where Holmes grew up, neighbors and residents have a hard time squaring the quiet teen who didn't call attention to himself with the image of Holmes depicted by police as a calculating killer.

His family still lives in the two-story white house with a red-tiled roof where he grew up.

Holmes, who graduated with high honors with a bachelor of science degree in neuroscience from the University of California-Riverside, was raised in a math and science household. His mother, Arlene, has been licensed as a registered nurse for more than 30 years. His father, Robert, is a mathematician who develops statistical models for financial services, specifically looking at fraud.

Theirs is a community where neighbors are friendly and know each other, said one neighbor, Rose To.

"We know the parents as good neighbors," said To, whose home is across the street. "We watch out for each other here."

Lindsay Van Leeuwen, 32, lives three doors away from Holmes' family. She has lived there four years and said she was probably one of the newest residents in the neighborhood. She doesn't know the family well, she said, but she received a card from them when her twins were born two months ago.

"It's scary. I'm shocked that it's happened right down the street," Van Leeuwen said.

RELATED NEWS

- Police: Colo. suspect planned massacre for months. **PAGE 14**
- News guide to the Colorado movie theater massacre. **PAGE 14**
- `I don't want my friends to die on my birthday' **PAGE 17**
- Warner Bros. struggles with Colorado shooting. **PAGE 19**
- Box office goes silent in wake of Colo. Shooting. **PAGE 20**
- AP essay: Shootings shatter safe haven of cinema. **PAGE 20**
- Warner Bros. cancels more world Batman premieres. **PAGE 21**

FALL

From Page 1

The strong impact of the bucket's fall to the edge of the rooftop threw the 54-year-old Fleming from the bucket, leaving him hanging in the air about 8 to 10 feet from the ground.

Six co-workers helped lower the victim, who was then transported by an ambulance to the Commonwealth Health Center.

The impact of the fall broke Fleming's back. He also suffered bruises all over his body. It was learned that he will be taken to the Philippines on Aug. 8 for a scheduled spinal operation on Aug. 10 at the Asian Hospital and Medical Center.

Fleming was cutting branches of trees near a government building located across the Workforce Investment Agency's office when the accident happened between 1:15pm to 1:30pm.

Observers asked yesterday why the incident was not reported to the media. They also inquired why the bucket truck was immediately removed from the scene before an investigation by the police and Occupational Safety and Health Administration was even completed.

It was not immediately learned if Fleming is covered by workmen's compensation or if the Saipan Mayor's Office has obtained one for its personnel.

CHC

From Page 1

now not covered by Medicaid or are being capped by Medicaid.

Sen. Ralph Torres (R-Saipan), chairman of the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare, said yesterday that one of his major concerns about the revised state plan is "not being able to give CHC ample time to stabilize its own workforce" before forcing the corporation to absorb all Medicaid patients except when CHC certifies it cannot provide the services."

"We're not helping CHC at all but creating more problems for them and most especially to the patients affected by the revised plan," Torres said.

He said CHC has been losing physicians and nurses yet Medicaid revised its state plan to require all Medicaid patients to go to CHC first, effective July 1.

"There will be influx in the number of patients that CHC will have to provide services to. I don't think CHC has the capacity and capability to handle all, unless it certifies that certain services cannot be provided at CHC and therefore allows Medicaid patients to go to private clinics," he added.

Torres believes that not much information about the plan is coming out from Medicaid or CHC.

"We are also getting information from them little by little. We want to know, for example, the kinds of services that the CHC [chief executive officer] could certify as not available at CHC so he can refer the students to private providers like clinics. So far we only know of St. Jude Renal Care that CHC can refer Medicaid patients too because CHC cannot accommodate the number of dialysis services needed by patients," he said.

Torres, at the same time, said the Health and Welfare and the Fiscal Affairs committees are looking at increasing Medicaid funding under the fiscal year 2013 budget.

"One of the proposals is to use money from vacant fulltime employee positions and give those funding to Medicaid. Increasing Medicaid funding is one of the committee's priorities," he said.

Sen. Jovita Taimanao (Ind-Rota), chairperson of the Fiscal Affairs Committee, also said her panel is looking at increasing funding for critical needs and agencies such as for Medicaid and medical referral.

Both committees will meet on the issue this week.

Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota), for his part, said Medicaid still owes private providers in the CNMI, Guam, Hawaii, and other U.S. states some $13 million in unpaid reimbursements.

In the CNMI alone, there are 24 vendors owed money by Medicaid.

Manglona said these include PHI Pharmacy ($2.1 million), Seventh-Day Adventist Clinic ($936,000), Pacific Medical Center ($933,000), Hardt Eye Clinic ($768,000), Marianas Medical Center ($574,000), Smile Marianas ($475,000), St. Jude Renal Care ($426,000), Marianas Eye Institute ($380,000), Saipan Health Clinic ($254,000), Marianas Visiting Nurses ($232,000), Toothworks ($207,000), Marianas Health Services Home Care ($200,000), Diamond Home Healthcare ($116,000), Healthcare Specialists ($111,000), Brabu Pharmacy ($111,000).

The other CNMI providers owed Medicaid money, according to Manglona, are Kaise Home Health Agency ($95,000), Modern Solution ($59,000), August Healthcare Group ($38,000), Pacific Laboratories ($28,000), Dental Care ($25,000), PT Rehab ($22,000), Marianas Medical Supply ($20,000), Hippocrates ($4,000), and Hippocrates Sleep ($4,000).

Guam-based providers are owed $758,000, while those in Hawaii and the U.S. are owed $.3 million, Manglona added.

In the revised Medicaid state plan, home health services are covered but the providers need to be Medicare-certified home health agencies and must be medically necessary.

It says the fact that a provider has prescribed, recommended, or approved the services or items does not, in itself, make such services or items medically necessary or a covered service. It adds that the Medicaid agency will make determination upon review of the claim and/or medical record.

Other restrictions include those on the provision of wheelchairs. Only one wheelchair is allowed every five years. Only standard, manually operated wheelchairs are covered. Motorized chairs including its replacement parts are not covered.

On dental services, orthodontics, prosthetics and root canal are not covered services. Coverage of oral surgery is limited to emergencies. Coverage is limited to age 19 and under, unless it is necessary for relief and pain infection only.

CW VISA

From Page 1

"He's still waiting, and it's been almost four months since he left Saipan for a two-month vacation. It's a long vacation because many like him go on vacation only once in three or four years. He went through the process online, paid the fee, and at the date of the interview at the embassy in Bangladesh, they asked him to wait for a decision because they still don't know much about the CW process," Syed told *Saipan Tribune*.

Syed said the CW permit holder, who has been working on Saipan for some 15 years, asked that his name not be published for fear that his CW visa application could be further jeopardized.

"He's scared that he won't be able to go back to Saipan and continue his work," Syed added.

The security agency where the Bangladeshi national works for is still willing to have him return to Saipan, said Syed, but if the non-issuance of a CW visa drags on longer, the employer might just pull the plug on the worker.

"This situation, just like the one about the Filipino worker who was denied a CW visa in the Philippines, is creating concern and fear among CW permit holders. They might just hold off on any vacation. But what if it's an emergency?" he said.

Syed also said that during presentations by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services months ago on the transitional CW program, "they assured that if there's no criminal problem involved, then there's no reason to be denied a CW visa."

"But that's not the case here. If it's true that the Filipino CW permit holder was denied a CW visa because he was earning only $5.05 an hour and not $7.25 an hour, then there's something wrong with the process. I believe USCIS should have been coordinating with the U.S. State Department or embassies to avoid denial or non-issuance of CW visa to those with valid CW permits," he said.

USCIS has yet to respond to media inquiries about the issue.

Saipan Consul General Medardo Macaraig, meanwhile, separately said that the Philippine Consulate General requested the Philippine Department of Foreign Affairs to "look into" the situation of a Filipino maintenance staffer at Pacific Islands Club who was denied a CW visa at the U.S. Embassy in Manila.

Macaraig was referring to Teodolfo C. Perez, who went on vacation in the Philippines early this month. Perez obtained a CW permit before leaving for a vacation, and applied for a CW visa beforehand.

"If it is true that he was denied only because he's earning $5.05 an hour, which is the minimum wage in the CNMI, then that is something that really needs to be looked into because that's wrong. And another minimum wage increase of 50 cents won't be due until September but that's still not going to be $7.25," he said.

Of the close to 12,000 foreign workers in the CNMI petitioned for a CW permit, only some 35 percent or over 4,000 have been granted such permits.

Most still have pending applications, including some 3,000 with requests for evidence, while less than a hundred petitions were denied.

PSS receives $34.4 million in federal grants in FY 2012

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth's public schools received a total of $34.4 million in grants from federal agencies this fiscal year 2012, according to CNMI Public School System federal programs officer Tim Thornburgh.

Of that amount, $4.8 million is still not obligated as of July 13 and will be used for the fourth quarter of this fiscal year, Thornburgh said. Total expenditures, he added, amount to $27.2 million so far.

In his report to the Board of Education, Thornburgh also announced the availability of funding for school breakfast and meals program and salaries for federally funded personnel. Federal grants pay the wages of about 300 public school employees.

He assured that PSS is consistent in its drawdown of federal monies.

Saipan Tribune learned that the $34.4 million federal assistance came from various granting agencies like the U.S. Department of Education for specific programs and purposes, including the annual consolidated grant, the Nutrition Assistance Program grant for special education, and the Head Start program, among others.

Grant application

On Wednesday, the Education Board approved the submission of an $8.4 million consolidated grant application for fiscal year 2013. This is one of the regular grant awards that PSS gets every year.

Thornburgh

PSS applies for this grant to achieve its goal of seeing its students scoring at the 50th percentile or higher on the SAT-10; seeing 80 percent of students reading at or above their grade level; and for 90 percent of students to score at proficient or above on the standard-based assessment in 2014.

Thornburgh said the grant amount is based on the CNMI's 2010 Census data and would be revised once new data becomes available. Thornburgh said this assurance was promised to PSS by the U.S. Education Department, which will also revise the awards for all insular areas.

The following are the areas to be funded under the $8.4 million grant application: funds reserved for Title I Part A LEA activities ($6.4 million); funds reserved for teacher recruitment, retention, and rewards ($100,000); educational technology ($1.3 million); teacher professional development ($164,000); and funds reserved for parental involvement ($62,000).

PSS will use $5.5 million for programs at public schools while private schools will be given $834,148.

PSS was appropriated by the local government only $30 million this fiscal year, of which $28 million will be used to pay for personnel salary while $2 million will go to operation and all others.

Thornburgh earlier said that federal monies greatly help the school system because it supplements the funding shortage in the local budget.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Survivors and caregivers support meeting on Thursday

All people facing cancer, their family members, and caregivers are invited to the next Commonwealth Cancer Association monthly support meeting scheduled for Thursday, July 26, 2012, at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, starting at 5:30pm. This month's support meeting guest speaker will be Trina Sablan, Healthy Lifestyle Promotion coordinator, NCD Bureau. Her presentation will feature detailed information on health promotion. To RSVP or for more information, call the association at 682-0050 or email at ccamarianas@gmail.com or call the NCD Bureau at 236-8638. ***(PR)***

Air Force, Navy training on FDM, Warning Area 517

The U.S. Air Force will conduct training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla on July 23-27 from 8am to 12:59am.

The Navy will conduct training at Warning Area 517 on July 24-25 from 8am to 5pm.

The general public, especially fishermen, commercial pilots, and marine tour operators, are advised to stay clear from the area during the times and dates indicated.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla training area will be on a 10 nautical mile radius on all quadrants.

W-517 is an irregular shaped polygon comprising of 14,000 nautical square miles of airspace that begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters. This will affect fishing in the vicinity of Santa Rosa Reef and Galvez Bank. ***(PR)***

Cleanup, Paint, and Beautify Day at MHS

On Saturday, Aug. 4, 2012, the Marianas High School Parent Teacher Association will conduct a Cleanup, Paint, and Beautify Day at the MHS campus. The PTA invites all parents, students, teachers, and any other interested members of the community to meet at the MHS at 7:30am to help prepare the campus for the new school year. For more information, contact Bobbie Torres at 287-6463, Martin Dalsaso or John Davis at 237-3202/4. ***(PR)***

Free Army Reserve Enrichment Camp

The Army Reserve's Child, Youth and School Services will host a free Youth Enrichment Camp on July 23-27, 2012, at Marianas Trekking for children ages 4 to 12. For more information contact Travis Mckinney at (808) 438-1600 Ext. 3374 or email travis.mckinney@us.army.mil, or Chris Nelson at 323-8735. ***(PR)***

ATTENTION
PRINCIPALS, TEACHERS, PARENTS, AND STUDENTS
SALE EXTENDED
Calvary Christian Academy's Closing Out Sale
Continues through July 31ST
Monday through Friday
8:00 AM to 3:00 PM Daily
Closed 12:00 to 12:30 each day for lunch
Remaining items at REDUCED PRICE.
- Student Lockers
- Rolling Computer Tables
- Kitchen Equipment and Supplies
- Science Laboratory Furniture, Equipment, and Supplies
- School supplies
- Office supplies
- Teacher supplies
- Bulletin Board material
- BOOKS and supplemental material
- Curriculum and Teacher's editions
- Encyclopedias
- Library books
- Large wooden cabinets
- Water Cooling Dispensers
- Furniture and supplies
- Brand new boys' pants (navy blue, all sizes)
- Brand new girls' skirts (navy blue, all sizes)
- Office Desk
- Construction Paper

Questions? 234-6026 • Located in Chalan Kiya

HAPPY SENDERS PROMO
Win a Roundtrip Ticket to the Philippines!*
Now, it's our turn to make you happy. Join the Western Union Happy Senders Promo and we'll bring you closer to home. From now until August 15, 2012, send money to the Philippines via Western Union® Money Transfer Service and you will be automatically entered to win one of the 6 Roundtrip Tickets from CNMI to the Philippines!
• Money Transfer •
WESTERN UNION
moving money for better
*This promotion is valid from May 15, 2012 to August 15, 2012. No purchase necessary. Terms and conditions apply. For full terms and conditions, inquire at your nearest Western Union Agent location.

Head Start looking for 30 kids to complete enrollment quota

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

MONETH G. DEPOSA

Public School System Head Start program director Melissa Palacios, leftmost, delivers her report during a meeting Wednesday while members of the Education Board listen. From left are Palacios, federal programs officer Tim Thornburgh, board member Galvin Deleon Guerrero, vice chair Tanya King, and board chair Marylou Ada.

CNMI Head Start program director Melissa Palacios disclosed last week that enrollment figures for the new school year shows that they still need to secure 30 more slots to meet the mandated enrollees of 462 children.

In her report to the Board of Education, Palacios said that enrollment for the program remains open for the scheduled opening of regular classes on Sept. 4.

Palacios said they are presently conducting a house-to-house recruitment on three islands to inform families of the vacant slots.

The CNMI Head Start is a federally funded program under the Department of Health and Human Services, which provides developmental services for low-income children ages 3 to 5 and social services for their families. It has an annual budget of $1.8 million, of which over $300,000 is from the local government.

Each year, the program is mandated to have only 462 children. It is required to maintain a wait list to immediately fill slots when enrollees withdraw or stop attending the program. As of last Wednesday, the program had no one on its wait list.

Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan hopes that parents will continue to send their children to the Head Start program. "We are required to serve 462 kids daily and if one is absent for one day or two, we need to know the reason and we bring in another student [to fill the slot] from the wait list," she told *Saipan Tribune*.

On Wednesday, Palacios also updated the board on ongoing and pending projects, the completion of inventories, trainings and workshops for staff preparations, and the continuing effort of staffers to obtain degrees and certificates.

Palacios also conveyed the program's plan to further push reading literacy outcome and bared plan to partner with the public library's Bookmobile program.

Palacios reported that, of their 16 non-degree classroom teachers, three have already obtained certificates, five were granted waivers, and the rest are working on their requirements. A waiver is granted to allow a non-degree staffer to remain until 2015.

Palacios is optimistic that by school year 2013, the CNMI will meet the mandate of the federal government to have at least 50 percent of program classroom teachers have bachelor's degrees.

Board chair Marylou Ada also praised the Head Start staff for immediately taking action on a recent suspected high lead case on Tinian.

Man gets 45-day jail term for kicking cop

A man who pleaded guilty to kicking a police officer in the leg was slapped with a 45-day prison term.

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho on Thursday sentenced Alexander James to a year in prison, all suspended except for 45 days, for assault and battery, with credit for time served.

After completing his sentence, James will be placed on probation for one year.

He was also ordered to pay a $50 fine, $100 probation fee plus court costs and was required to perform 50 hours of community service.

Camacho also ordered James to pay $928.52 in restitution to Kenneth Leon Guerrero for damaging his car.

Camacho barred the defendant during his probation from possessing or consuming alcoholic beverages as well as entering into any establishment whose primary purpose is the sale or consumption of alcoholic beverages.

As part of the plea deal, the government dismissed the remaining charge of criminal mischief.

According to the plea agreement, on Nov. 16, 2011 on Saipan, James kicked police officer Abraham Villagomez in the leg.

The government also charged James with jumping up and down on top of Leon Guerrero's car, causing a dent.

Camacho accepted the plea agreement as James' employer had stated that he is still willing to accept James after serving the jail term and that the defendant has no criminal history. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

CERTIFIED
Used Cars
1 YEAR FREE SERVICE WITH USED CAR PURCHASE
DEALS OF THE WEEK

2005 Ford Five Hhundred SE
STOCK # 5C104810
$11,995.00

2010 Kia Rio LX
STOCK # A6673680
$12,995.00

2005 Nissan Maxima SE
STOCK # 5C807751
$13,995.00

2004 Honda Accord LX
STOCK # 4A07149
$12,995.00*

2005 Nissan Maxima SE
STOCK # 5C872759
SOLD
$12,995.00*

2006 Kia Sorento LX 4WD
STOCK # 65602982
$12,995.00*

2004 Honda Accord LX
STOCK # 4A068311
$12,995.00*

2010 Honda Civic LX
STOCK # AE035279
$16,995.00*

2008 Ford Ranger Sport 4x4
STOCK # 8PA43917
$21,995.00*

2009 Nissan Xterra S
STOCK # 9C509155
PRICE REDUCED
$18,995.00*

2008 Mazda RX8
STOCK # 80214167
PRICE REDUCED
$16,995.00*

2008 Nissan Quest S
STOCK # 8N111101
$18,995.00*

Joseph (Jay) Cabrera
Sales Consultant
Visit or call 234-5562
Visit us on Facebook

2009 Nissan Altima S
STOCK # 9C188438
$18,995.00*

2009 Nissan Frontier SE 4WD
STOCK # 9C414791
$23,995.00*

SHOWROOM HOURS: MON. – FRI. 8 AM – 6 PM
SAT. 8 AM - 12 NOON • TEL. 234-5562
Vehicle may not be exactly as shown • Some conditions apply • On approved credit • See dealer for details • While Supplies last.
* Vehicles Certified with 61 point inspection.
Joeten Motors
POWERED BY YOU

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

PROCUREMENT AND DELIVERY OF POLICE OPERATIONAL GEARS PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-005-12

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority, Port of Saipan is soliciting competitive sealed proposals for the procurement and delivery of the following Police Operational Gears:

- 16 ea. ~ Tactical Helmets
- 16 ea. ~ ASP/Flashlight/OC Pouch
- 16 ea. ~ Yoke Sling
- 16 ea. ~ Small Utility Pouch
- 16 ea. ~ Double Magazine Pouches
- 16 ea. ~ Handcuff Case
- 16 ea. ~ Shotgun Shell Pouch
- 16 ea. ~ Shotgun Double Handgun Pouch
- 51 ea. ~ Tactical PDU Class B Uniform
- 51 ea. ~ Tactical TDU Pants
- 51 ea. ~ Tactical Shorts
- 51 ea. ~ Tactical Polo
- 51 ea. ~ Pelican 7060 Briefs
- 51 ea. ~ Tactical Caps
- 51 ea. ~ Under Amour Tactical Polo
- 51 ea. ~ Under Armour Tactical Mirage
- 51 ea. ~ Under Armour Trail Boot
- 51 ea. ~ Under Armour Breech Boot
- 51 ea. ~ Under Armour Combat Glove
- 51 ea. ~ Belts
- 51 ea. ~ Holster
- 51 ea. ~ Duty Starter
- 51 ea. ~ ASP Rotating Holster

The List for the Procurement and Delivery of Police Operational Gears will be available at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building on July 16th , 2012.

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "Proposal for Procurement and Delivery of Police Operational Gears." One (1) original and two (2) copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than 2:00 P.M. LOCAL TIME, August 10th, 2012, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport. Proposals received unsealed or unlabeled will not be considered. Proposals submitted by facsimile (fax) Transmission will not be considered. Any proposals received after the proposal submittal deadline shall be returned to the proposer unopened. Should a proposer find discrepancies in, or omission from, the description or specifications contained herein, proposer shall at once notify Ms. Kay Inos at telephone numbers 664-3550 or 664-3562 respectively, and should it be found necessary, a written addendum will be sent to all proposers. Proposers must guarantee that any or all equipment found defective at the time of delivery must replace equipment within 60 days from date of first delivery.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for; (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request For Proposals; (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the procurement project would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

All proposals shall become the property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority. This RFP shall be executed as per the CPA Procurement Regulations.

Funding for the procurement of Police Operational Gear is made possible by the 2009 Port Security Grant Program from the U.S Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency. All items listed above will be used at the Seaport Division.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ EDWARD M. DELEON GUERRERO
Executive Director

07/09/2012
DATE

3rd SHRM grant program: Hotel front desk and admin clerks

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The third group of the SHRM Workforce Readiness Initiative.

The recent training program for hotel front desk clerks and administrative clerks and receptionist had the largest number of participants yet in the Society for Human Resource Management's Workforce Readiness Initiative program. The third program sponsored by the Initiative program graduated 21 trainees on June 30, completing a week of job preparation and administrative skills in their efforts to prepare themselves for employment in the CNMI's private sector.

This group of job seekers, referred by the CNMI Department of Labor and the Workforce Investment Agency, received 40 hours of training during the week of June 27 to June 30, with hotel front desk, receptionist and general administrative clerk skills, plus basic computer and cashiering skills.

"Hotels and private companies all have a need for administrative staff," said Frank Gibson, Initiative program manager for SHRM. "Many of our trainees had some previous administrative work experience, but some are just entering the workforce. The training they received will give them a better understanding of what to expect on the job and provided some basic skills to make the company's training and orientation easier and more effective. Most of the trainees are also eligible for support from the WIA Work Experience or On-the-Job-Training Programs."

"Our trainees are going out to businesses and applying for positions. They will have résumés prepared as part of this program and a certificate of participation. I hope our businesses will recognize the potential of these applicants and give them an opportunity to show their capabilities. They received good solid training from knowledgeable and experienced instructors from the business community. They will all do well," he added, " and I urge employers to contact the Initiative office at 233-7476, or me personally, at 287-7476, to arrange for interviews."

The third Initiative program participants were Stephanie V. Blas, Regina A. Camacho, Zoranelle A. Camacho, Antonia V. Carr, Soledad Castro, Albert DL Guerrero, Polla S. Dulei, Tricia Epel, Kelvin Fitial, Lorenza Iginoef, Joseph A. Imperial, Ramon S. Kaipat, Rebecca T. Lisua, Juanita L. Nekaifes, Fame M. Ngirutoi, Petrus W. Nicky, Mailau P. Pomee, Angelein Rios, James M. Sablan, Daisina Suda, and GinaAnn R. Yaroitemal.

The hotel front desk clerk and administrative clerk program included job preparation classes on job applications and résumés, job interviews, equal employment opportunity and sexual harassment, and employer expectations. Skills training classes were provided on customer service, hotel front desk clerk services, general administrative, receptionist and clerical duties, basic computer, basic cashiering, and telephone answering and workplace etiquette.

Gibson said the success of the program was also due to the professional skills and the interest of the instructors. "I would like to thank the SHRM members, Polly DLG Masga from PIC, Jim Arenovski from Delta Management, Malou Ernest from Tan Holdings, Juan I. Tenorio from the Hafa Adai Beach Hotel, Rosalyn Quinanilla from the Hyatt Regency Saipan, and those from the private sector, Jill Arenovski from Seafix, Inc., Nat Angeles and Soc Nilo Villanueva, also from Tan Holdings, who worked with the participants to prepare them for employment. Special thanks are also owed Francisco Ada Jr., from Triple J, Inc. and Joven Cruz from CTSI Logistics who volunteered their time to assist with mock job interviews. I appreciate the business community's willing assistance."

The Workforce Readiness Initiative is funded by a grant awarded to the CNMI SHRM by the U.S. Department of the Interior through the CNMI Department of Commerce in support of the CNMI Economic and Labor Enhancement Program. This initiative started on April 16 with a one-week warehouseman training program and will continue on July 30 with a program for accounting clerks/bookkeeper. The program will run Monday through Friday, Aug. 3.

The Workforce Readiness Initiative is for the benefit of unemployed U.S. qualified workers. Qualified individuals who are registered with WIA or the DOL Employment Services should contact those offices and let them know of their interest. Those who are not registered and are interested in joining one of the Initiative programs should immediately register with WIA and express their interest. All interested candidates should sign up with WIA to allow them to help employers with funding of Initiative graduates. Interested individuals can also contact Gibson by e-mail at hrsupportcnmi@gmail.com. This next program will require some previous basic experience or education in accounting or bookkeeping.

Although the Initiative does not guarantee a job for every participant, it will make every effort to get each graduate employed. Several companies have already accepted Initiative graduates and the Initiative will continue to source jobs through its SHRM-member companies and other employers. Companies interested in considering Initiative graduates can also contact Gibson at hrsupportcnmi@gmail.com.

This program is supported by federal funds in the amount of $102,000 under the U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Insular Affairs, CNMI Economic and Labor Enhancement Program through a sub-grant award from the CNMI Department of Commerce. ***(SHRM)***

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

PROCUREMENT AND DELIVERY OF POLICE PERSONAL EQUIPMENT PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-007-12

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority, Port of Saipan is soliciting sealed proposals for the procurement and delivery of the following Police Personal Equipment:

- 16 ea. ~ Bulletproof Vests ~ Level IV
- 16 ea. ~ Ceramic Plates (for Level IV Vests)
- 51 ea. ~ Concealable Bulletproof Vests ~ Level III

All Bulletproof Vests must be in compliance with National Institute of Justice (NIJ) Standards.

The List for the Procurement and Delivery of Police Personal Equipment will be available at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building on July 16th , 2012.

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "Proposal for Procurement and Delivery of Police Personal Equipment." One (1) original and two (2) copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than 2:00 P.M. LOCAL TIME, August 10th, 2012, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport. Proposals received unsealed or unlabeled will not be considered. Proposals submitted by facsimile (fax) Transmission will not be considered. Any proposals received after the proposal submittal deadline shall be returned to the proposer unopened. Should a proposer find discrepancies in, or omission from, the description or specifications contained herein, proposer shall at once notify Ms. Kay Inos at telephone numbers 664-3550 or 664-3562 respectively, and should it be found necessary, a written addendum will be sent to all proposers. Proposers must guarantee that any or all equipment found defective at the time of delivery must replace equipment within 60 days from date of first delivery.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for; (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request For Proposals; (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the procurement project would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

All proposals shall become the property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority. This RFP shall be executed as per the CPA Procurement Regulations.

Funding for the procurement of police personal equipment is made possible by the 2009 Port Security Grant Program from the U.S Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency. All items listed above will be used at the Seaport Division.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/EDWARD M. DELEON GUERRERO
Executive Director

07/09/2012
DATE

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Department of Community and Cultural Affairs
Office of the Secretary
Caller Box 10007, Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950
Tel. (670) 664-2587 Fax (670) 664-2547

CHILD CARE PROGRAM
OPENS FOR NEW APPLICANTS

To: All parents and/or Legal Guardians:

The Department of Community and Cultural Affairs Child Care Program will be doing pre-eligibility assessments for new applicants. The program will open to a maximum of 100 children or slots only (CNMI wide). **For this opening, parents who are attending school, training or working will be accommodated**. Once all slots have been taken, pre-eligibility assessments will cease and applications will no longer be provided.

Pre-eligibility assessments will be done at the following locations, date, and time.

LOCATION	DATE	TIME
Multipurpose Hall, Susupe	Tuesday, July 24, 2012	3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Rota	Wednesday, July 25, 2012	4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Tinian	Wednesday, August 1, 2012	10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Parents and/or legal guardians who are interested in applying for the program must go through the pre-eligibility process and will need to bring the following:

Three (3) latest checkstubs showing the applicant's name, hours worked (at least 60 hours bi-weekly), hourly rate, and gross monthly earnings (both parents)
Most recent 1040 tax – for the year 2011 (both parents)
School documents (class schedule, must be full time 12 credit)
Training schedule (must have at least 60 training hours bi-weekly)

Interested applicants must bring the above documents to be entertained for pre-eligibility.

The Child Care Program Office will accept completed applications beginning August 7, 2012 between 1:00p.m. to 4:00p.m. and the last day to submit applications will be August 13, 2012 at 3:00 p.m. Completed applications along with the required documents should be forwarded to the Child Care Program Office Building No. 1347 Ascension Court Capitol Hill. Incomplete applications will not be accepted.

For questions regarding the Child Care Program please call at 664-2575/2546/2587.

Requirements:
Applicant of Household
Check stubs for the most recent three pay periods for each parent or guardian
A copy of Identification Card for each parent or guardian (Passport, CNMI driver's license, Mayor's ID Card or entry permit)
A copy of your most recent 1040 Tax for the year 2011 (each parent or guardian)
Residency: The applicant or guardian must be living in the CNMI
Provide one of the following documents
House Rental/ Mortgage
Utility Receipt
Telephone Receipt
Entry Permit
Employment verification (CCDF Form)
Child support statement/stub
Training/Education Verification and class schedules
If single parent/guardian in a household provide notarized affidavit
Must have CW1 documentation (if applicable)
Must have completed USCIS Biometrics (if applicable)

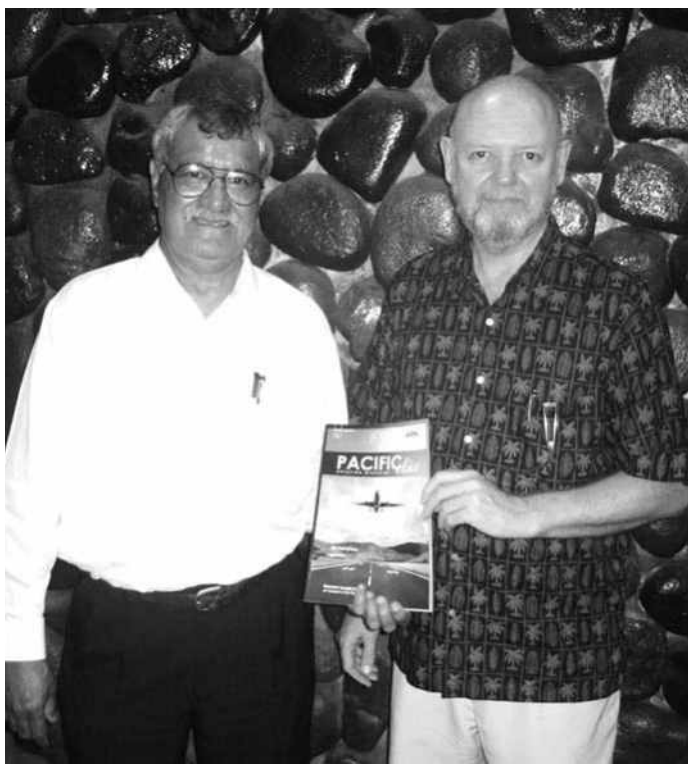
Child/Children Household member:
A copy of Birth Certificate for each child (Child must be a US citizen or a qualified alien, as defined in Personal Responsibility Work Opportunity Act (PRWORA)
A copy of US Passport
A copy of Social Security Card

Approved for distribution: /s/Melvin L.O. Faisao
DCCA Secretary

Date: July 05, 2012

Funding from the Office of Child Care, US Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families.

Pacific Skies: Communicating Pacific aviation news



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

ASPA Secretary-General George Faktaufon, left, with the Director of SPC's Economic Development Division, John Hogan, launching the magazine at the 56th General Session of ASPA.

SUVA, Fiji—With the launch of the *Pacific Skies* aviation magazine this year, the aviation sector in the Pacific has a new voice for communicating its news all around the globe.

The biannual magazine, jointly produced by the Association of South Pacific Airlines and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community, was launched at the 56th General Session of ASPA in Nadi, Fiji on July 19.

Pacific Skies is a revival of ASPA's former *South Pacific Aviation Magazine* that ceased production in 2006. Under a new partnership arrangement, ASPA and SPC committed to bringing the magazine to life this year due to growing interest in aviation issues in the region.

The aviation sector has a significant footprint in the economies of the Pacific Islands region, supporting around $261 million (1.5 percent) of gross domestic product and 29,800 jobs (7,700 directly supported) or 0.9 percent of the regional workforce.

Given the economic benefits tied to the aviation sector, regional agencies such as ASPA and SPC are making great efforts to address the needs of their members, including combining resources to implement cost-effective initiatives, such as the development of *Pacific Skies*.

ASPA, the peak airline association in the South Pacific representing the interests of 14 member airlines, together with 24 service provider members, signed a memorandum of understanding with SPC in May this year.

Speaking at the ASPA conference on Friday, John Hogan, Director of SPC's Economic Development Division, elaborated on SPC's emerging role in aviation.

"SPC's role in aviation is to support current efforts to develop safe, secure, reliable and affordable aviation transport services across its 22 Pacific Island members, especially smaller island states," he said.

"Our work is guided by the *Framework for Action on Transport Services*, which was endorsed by Pacific transport ministers in April 2011 and calls for a 'many partners, one team' approach to work undertaken by agencies.

"The *Pacific Skies* magazine is the first initiative resulting from the ASPA–SPC partnership and SPC will continue to work with ASPA as well as other aviation partners on initiatives of benefit to the region," Hogan said.

Welcoming the launch of the magazine, ASPA Secretary-General George Faktaufon urged ASPA members to use the magazine as a platform for sharing their experiences and best practices in the industry.

"This is an opportunity not to be missed. Aviation agencies have a chance to communicate their work widely through this regional magazine at zero cost," Faktaufon stressed. 'We look forward to the second issue, which will be published at the end of the year."

The Pacific Skies magazine has an expected readership of over 900 covering Pacific member governments, industry, development partners, regional and international organizations and advertisers. ***(SPC)***

Hawaii firm ordered to pay over $190,000 for age discrimination

» Owner referred to employee as a 'bag of bones,' then fired her, says EEOC

HONOLULU—Hawaii Healthcare Professionals, Inc.—also known as Hawaii Professional HomeCare Services, Inc.—and its owner have been ordered to pay $193,236 to a woman allegedly fired due to her age, in a default judgment awarded by U.S. District Judge Alan C. Kay in Hawaii, the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission announced Friday. The judgment resolves an age discrimination lawsuit filed by the EEOC against the Honolulu-based home health care services company in 2010.

Moreno

The company's owner, Carolyn Frutoz-De Harne, ordered the 2008 termination of Debra Moreno, a then-54-year-old office coordinator at its Maui facility, according to the EEOC. The termination proceeded despite reports by the facility's manager, who actually hired and supervised Moreno, that Moreno was a thorough and efficient worker. Frutoz-De Harne allegedly ordered that Moreno be fired after telling the manager that Moreno "looks old," "sounds old on the telephone," and is "like a bag of bones." Frutoz-De Harne also allegedly told the manager that Moreno was not the type of person she wanted representing her company, the EEOC said. After the termination, the manager reported the ageist comments to Moreno, who in turn filed a discrimination charge with the EEOC.

Following an investigation, the EEOC filed suit against Hawaii Healthcare Professionals in U.S. District Court for the District of Hawaii and subsequently added Frutoz-De Harne as a defendant. The EEOC charged that the conduct was a form of age discrimination, which violates the Age Discrimination in Employment Act.

In addition to the monetary award for Moreno, the judgment also requires that the defendants prevent future age discrimination and retaliation by developing and disseminating procedures to address such claims and training all staff on their rights with respect to age discrimination and retaliation, with additional training for supervisors on how to deal with complaints. The defendants also must retain an outside equal employment opportunity coordinator to assist with these efforts and post a notice for employees regarding the judgment. The EEOC will monitor compliance with the judgment.

"When I learned that my age was the reason for the disparaging remarks and termination, I was embarrassed and demoralized. For me, it was the ultimate blow. Age had never before been a consideration for me," said Moreno. "The court's decision makes me feel optimistic and vindicated. I am really grateful that the EEOC exists to help people like me."

Anna Y. Park, regional attorney for the EEOC's Los Angeles District Office, which oversees the agency's litigation in Hawaii, said, "Age should never be a factor when evaluating an employee or job applicant's worth. What makes this case especially appalling is the flagrant disregard for a worker's abilities, coupled with disparaging ageist remarks and thinking. The EEOC will not tolerate such violations of civil rights law and is pleased by the court's decision."

Timothy Riera, director of the EEOC's Honolulu Local Office, added, "Employers should ensure that equal opportunity is available for all applicants and employees, regardless of age or any other legally protected basis. Employers should have a strong anti-discrimination policy and offer training to reinforce the goal of equal opportunity and to prevent future civil rights issues from arising."

The EEOC enforces federal laws prohibiting employment discrimination. Further information about the EEOC is available on its web site at www.eeoc.gov. ***(EEOC)***

Guam agencies partner to rescue injured hiker

APRA HARBOR, Gaum—Guam Fire Rescue, HSC-25 and Coast Guard watchstanders partnered to rescue a hiker who sustained a head injury on the Upper Sigua Falls trail yesterday afternoon.

Land crews from Guam Fire Rescue hiked in from the Channel 10 tower and Leo's Palace to locate the injure hiker while the Coast Guard coordinated with HSC-25 in the air.

HSC-25 successfully located the hikers and lowered down a rescue swimmer and corpsman to provide immediate medical attention.

After hoisting down the medical team, HSC-25 experienced a mechanical issue and had to return to base but left their crew behind to provide care while awaiting rescue teams.

Guam Fire Rescue arrived on the scene using all terrain vehicles and will transport the hiker out of the trail. Responders estimate it will take at least one hour to make it back to the trail head from the scene.

The hiker is reported to be in stable condition at this time. ***(USCG)***

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

July 23, 2001

Lower retirement age mulled

A proposed bill is now in the works at the House of Representatives that aims to amend certain provisions of the Commonwealth's retirement law, particularly the lowering of the retirement age to 55 and increasing member contributions to 10 percent. In addition, the amendatory bill, which is still being drafted by Rep. Rosiky F. Camacho, also seeks to redefine the requirements for crediting prior service for Class I members and readjusts the annual annuity of members. According to Northern Mariana Islands Retirement Fund administrator Juan S. Torres, Camacho's bill will be the House counterpart to Senate Bill 12-15-introduced by Sen. Ramon S. Guerrero-which aims "to improve the retirement benefits and the conditions for retirement for Class I members of the CNMI Retirement Fund."

Bidder takes hands off in landfill case

Pacific Drilling, Ltd., a partner of the leading consortium in the Marpi landfill bidding, does not want to meddle with the on-going litigation filed by its competitor against Public Works Secretary Juan B. Cepeda and Procurement and Supply Director Herman S. Sablan. "Let the government handle it," PDL general manager Ravindra Gogineni said in a telephone interview. He said PDL and its partner, Dick Pacific Corporation, is not involved in the lawsuit filed by its competitor, the joint venture of Western Equipment, Inc. and DRC Pacific Corporation. The legal action, which was docketed as civil case no. 01-0386 C, seeks to stop Cepeda and Sablan, in their capacities as public officials, from awarding the multi-million dollar contract for the Marpi Solid Waste Facility to DPC-PDL.

July 23, 2003

Fuel found in water well

Representatives from the Division of Environmental Quality unearthed at least two gallons of fuel from a water well in Koblerville, which they believe to be part of the military's airfield during World War II. The DEQ sipped the fuel from the 180-foot deep KV1 well in a two-day experiment to assess the current situation at the well. DEQ environmental planner Ray Masga said the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. drilled KV1 as an exploratory well in 1992. CUC discovered that the underground water is contaminated with fuel. "We don't know how the [fuel] product ended on the ground," Masga said. Local officials suspect, though, that the contamination was associated with military activities during the war, he added.

House passes 6th version of prison bill

With little time to mourn the death of House Bill 13-306, which was defeated yesterday at the Senate, the House of Representatives hoisted another prison financing measure-the sixth-that identifies funding for the Rota and Tinian dialysis centers, in addition to the prison completion. The lower house wasted no time in passing H.B. 13-317, introduced by Rep. Arnold I. Palacios and co-sponsored by Rota Rep. Daniel O. Quitugua and Tinian Rep. Norman Palacios. HB 13-306 met its death in the upper house after the Senate leadership inserted amendments that reflected additional appropriations for Rota and Tinian public health projects amounting to $2 million.

July 23, 2004

Teacher rep supports PRAXIS testing

Teacher representative Ambrose M. Bennett expressed disappointment yesterday over the Board of Education's decision to start requiring teachers to take the PRAXIS test-an exam required by some states as a measure of competence. Bennett stressed that he supports the testing but added that certain scenarios "may" be raised due to the lack of consideration for teachers. "I'm for the testing, but teachers deserve the right to have some input before a final approval," Bennett said in a letter to the Board. "With PRAXIS testing not being a requirement under the present teacher contract, there could be some opposition to the testing being forced on teachers."

$200K needed for high school interscholastic sports

The Public School System recently asked for the governor's help in funding an after-school sports program in the Commonwealth. The PSS said it needs a total $200,000 to fund the Interscholastic Sports Program for the five high schools in the CNMI. Education Commissioner Rita H. Inos disclosed in a statement that the money for the program could not be taken from either the Safe and Drug Free Program or Title V U.S. Department of Education federal funds, or even the annual local appropriation to the PSS.

Indigenous islanders tackle climate change

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

From left, panel moderator and Hawaii State Sen. Brickwood Galuteria, CNMI Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, and Guam Chamorro Affairs' Joseph Artero-Cameron.

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Hundreds of native leaders, witnesses and climate scientists joined policy-makers and non-government organizations for groundbreaking dialogue at a climate change symposium held from Wednesday through Friday at the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian.

"First Stewards: Coastal Peoples Address Climate Change" is a national event that examines the impact of climate change on indigenous coastal cultures and explores solutions based on millennia of traditional ecological knowledge.

Regional panels shared climate adaptation strategies from coastal and island ecosystems nationwide where Indian Country, Alaskan Natives and indigenous U.S. Pacific Islanders are at the forefront, creating an incubator for climate change solutions. Tribal regulatory environments allow for demonstrations of solutions to pressing needs, such as renewable energy and adaptation strategies for villages.

The Pacific Islands Panel was featured on Thursday with the theme, "Little changes have big impacts on little islands: Relying on tradition to sustain resources." The U.S. Pacific islands comprise approximately 1.5 million square miles and account for half of the nation's exclusive economic zone. Through observation and adaptation, the Refaluwasch, Chamorro, Samoan, and Hawaiian peoples have maintained subsistence lifestyles and survived supertyphoons and droughts.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial represented the Refaluwasch people on the panel. He was joined by other island panelists: Guam's Chamorro Affairs president Joseph Artero-Cameron, Chamorro; American Samoa's Marine and Wildlife Resources director Ufagafa Ray Tulafono, Samoan; and Haleakala National Park manager Paulokaleioku Timothy Bailey, Hawaiian.

In his presentation, Fitial discussed the need for sound policy and the effects of climate change from the perspective of Refaluwasch culture and traditions. ***See complete text of his speech on Page 11.***

The symposium is a partnership between the tribal and Pacific Island indigenous communities with scientists and governmental and non-governmental organizations including the National Congress of American Indians, NOAA Office of National Marine Sanctuaries and National Marine Fisheries Service, Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian, The Nature Conservancy, and Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council. Other partners include Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission, EA Engineering, Science, and Technology; Salmon Defense, Uncas Consulting Services; and United South and Eastern Tribes. ***(Office of the Governor)***

INVITATION FOR BIDS

WATER TASK FORCE
IFB12-GOV-087

Governor Benigno R. Fitial, through the CNMI Water Task Force, are soliciting sealed bids for the Leak Detection and Repairs from Tekken St in Susupe to Orchid St. in Garapan, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

A bid guarantee of 15 percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of the Treasury (T-Listed).

The Contractor will be required to submit payment and performance bonds from a US Treasury listed company. The Contractor will also be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal laws including the Davis Bacon Act.

This project is funded by a grant from the Office of Insular Affairs (OIA), Department of the Interior. The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the project approval from OIA.

The project consists, in general, but is not limited to:

- Contractor shall identify, report, and repairs leaks in the water distribution system, to include but not limited to mainline leaks, residential meter leaks, fire hydrants, mainline valve leaks, and other appurtenant parts of the distribution system. Contractor shall also report and repair or replace inoperable fire hydrant and valves. Contractor shall identify the models, make and part number or identification of any existing meters, hydrants or valves, which were repaired.
- Installation of valves, air relief valves, blow-off valves, fire hydrants and fittings.
- Contractor will, for each identified leak, submit a repair schedule and cost estimate for the repair including restoration of the repair sites (cushioning, backfilling/compaction and asphalting). Pavement restoration, predominantly along the road traffic, shall be expeditiously restored initially using lean concrete as basecourse. Compaction test must be submitted prior to paving.
- Contractor shall identify, report, and resolve areas of potential backflow within the water distribution system. Contractor, upon notification from WTF as forwarded from CUC, shall investigate complaints of low water pressure in the distribution system. This may indicate a substantial leak has occurred.
- Contractor will trace unrecorded service lines to their point of origin.
- Contractor shall identify, report, cut and cap abandoned lines and laterals serving vacant buildings or other facilities.
- Contractor shall provide a detailed daily report to WTF and CUC to include findings, cause of leak, steps taken to resolve the problem, materials used and type of testing performed.
- Contractor shall check all water customer service and shall report to WTF and CUC overflowing cisterns/tanks for CUC-Water Division enforcement.
- Contractor shall isolate the line subjected for repairs and shall take various pressure readings at different times before and after the repair. Contractor shall submit a pressure reading logs. Contractor shall ensure that all existing customers affected by line isolation are reconnected to the water system.
- Asphalt Road restoration.
- Repairs procedures shall be in compliance with the requirements of the CUC Water Division, DEQ, AWWA Standards, OSHA regulations and USDOT FHWA standards.

A non-refundable payment of $500 to CNMI Treasury is required for each set of Plans, Specifications, and Proposal Forms, available on or after July 9, 2012 at the Water Task Force Office, 1316 Anatahan Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan. A mandatory pre-bid conference for this project is scheduled at 10:00 AM, on July 20, 2012, at the WTF Conference Room, Saipan. A project site visit will be made as a part of the pre-bid meeting.
All inquiries shall be in writing and addressed to Pedro Sasamoto, Program Manager, Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950 or faxed to (670) 664-2279. Inquiries must be received no later than 4:00 PM on July 19, 2012.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, contained in the CNMI Administrative Code, Title 70 Subchapter 70-30.3. Preference is not available to local bidders in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funds for this project.

Sealed bids must be marked "IFB12-GOV-087". For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 2:00 PM local time August 7, 2012. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 2:00 PM local time August 7, 2012, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than August 7, 2012, and must be received no later than 2:00 PM August 16, 2012. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly open and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 3:00 PM local time, August 16, 2012. However, if no Notices of Intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 3:00 PM local time on August 7, 2012.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/Benigno R. Fitial
Governor and Contracting Officer

/s/Herman S. Sablan
Director, Procurement and Supply

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-12-020

SUPPLY & DELIVERY PREPAID METERS

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Supply and Delivery of Remote Disconnect Prepaid Meters for CUC Power Division, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Bid Package may be obtained, upon receipt of a non-refundable payment from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash or check, in the amount of $100.00 for one set; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-IFB-12-020, Supply & Delivery of Remote Disconnect Prepaid Meters"*, to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM, (ChST) on July 24, 2012** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. A copy of the entire submission is also required to be sent by email to Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email address mika.muna@cucgov.org or alternately include a CD with each copy of the submission. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid or supply under the contract.

The IFB does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the bid under this request, or to procure or contract for goods.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All inquiries must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on **July 20, 2012** to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email-manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Mr. Alfredo Palattao, Power Division Engineer via email alfred.palattao@cucgov.org and Ms. Janina Mika Muna, Admin. Support Assistant, Procurement & Supply – mika.muna@cucgov.org

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

/S/ ALAN W. FLETCHER
Acting Executive Director

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-12-021

SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF DRINKING WATER & CUBE ICE

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the supply and delivery of bottled drinking water & cube ice for CUC Administration and Operation Division Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Bid Package may be obtained, upon receipt of a non-refundable payment from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash or check, in the amount of $100.00 for one set; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-12-021, Supply & Delivery of Drinking Water & Cube Ice", to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM, (ChST) on August 9, 2012** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. A copy of the entire submission is also required to be sent by email to Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email address mika.muna@cucgov.org or alternately include a CD with each copy of the submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid or supply under the contract. The IFB does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the bid under this request, or to procure or contract for services.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and wave any imperfection in the bid proposal in the interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

All inquires must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on **July 23, 2012** to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email-manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Ms. Janina Mika Muna, Admin. Support Assistant, Procurement & Supply – mika.muna@cucgov.org

/s/ ALAN W. FLETCHER
Acting Executive Director

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-12-022

SUPPLY OF FUEL FOR LIGHT VEHICLE AND HEAVY EQUIPMENT

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms to supply fuel for CUC's light vehicle and heavy equipment on Saipan, Tinian and Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Bid Package may be obtained, upon receipt of a non-refundable payment from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash or check, in the amount of $100.00 for one set; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-12-022, Supply of Fuel for Light Vehicle & Heavy Equipment", to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM, (ChST) on August 14, 2012** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. A copy of the entire submission is also required to be sent by email to Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email address mika.muna@cucgov.org or alternately include a CD with each copy of the submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid or supply under the contract. The IFB does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the bid under this request, or to procure or contract for services.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and wave any imperfection in the bid proposal in the interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

All inquires must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on **July 23, 2012** to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email-manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Ms. Janina Mika Muna, Admin. Support Assistant, Procurement & Supply – mika.muna@cucgov.org

/s/ ALAN W. FLETCHER
Acting Executive Director

Opinion

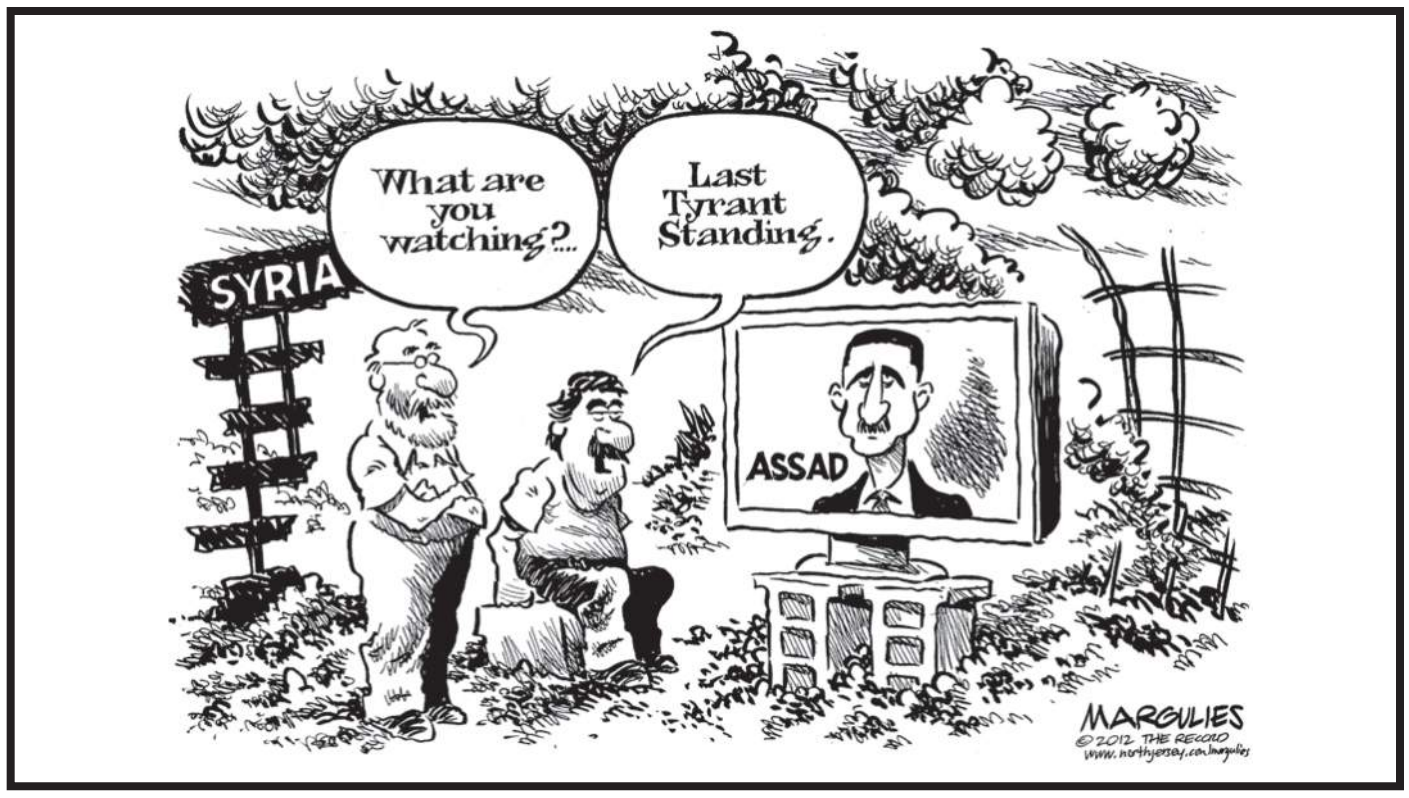
Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXII, Issue No. 173

Published daily at 2/F JP Centre,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR

MEMBER

The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association



By HERMAN GREENE
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Herman Greene is president of the Center for Ecozoic Societies in Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

Notes from Rio+20: Why it didn't fail

I was in Rio from June 13-22 for the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20). The prevailing view is that Rio+20 was a failure. *The New York Times* quoted representatives of CARE saying it was "nothing more than a political charade," and Greenpeace declaring it "a failure of epic proportions."

Evaluating Rio+20 as a failure has consequences. For some, its "failure" underscores the weakness of the UN processes as a whole. Because blame was placed on "governments," faith in government action has fallen. In the United States, where the event was seldom reported, reports of failure would underscore the event's "lack of importance."

My view is different. I had to educate myself to understand the UN sustainable development process, of which Rio+20 is only the latest chapter in a 40-year long history. I engaged in this process in October 2011 in order to promote formation of an International Ethics Panel on Ecological Civilization. Many NGOs and some governments were emphasizing the need for new ethical structures in UN governance in connection with Rio+20's theme, "Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development."

In attending preparatory events and the final Rio+20 conference, I learned the UN's sustainable development process is not primarily about the environment. It is about how people can improve their lives and the most appropriate forms of development for doing so. Environment comes in because it must: after all Earth is the living planet and resource base on which humans physically and culturally depend. Economics enters because our current understanding of development is dominated by it and by conventions such as GDP, neo-liberalism, globalization, and industrialization, all of which were questioned in the Rio+20 debates, especially in relation to the conference's other theme, "The Green Economy."

I learned that equity and security are at the heart of every sustainable development debate. Small island states ask if it is equitable that they should be flooded due to global warming and rising seas attributable to the actions of others. The president of Ecuador raises the question how much should his country be paid to leave rainforests intact to produce oxygen for the world. The "Green Economy" is viewed by many in the South as a further expansion of capitalism, commodification of nature, and threat to indigenous people. Security becomes, for many, a question whether they will have food to eat in a world facing erosion of land, desertification and land grabs by governments and corporations. Subsistence farmers wonder why they must enter the monetary economy to become "sustainable," and why their occupation of land for centuries does not constitute "title."

I learned that civil society by holding to their ideals, commenting on intergovernmental negotiations and making their voices heard, are collectively a major force in the UN negotiations. Yet I also learned that, now more than ever, government is the indispensable actor in bringing about the future we want.

With this growing knowledge, I have come to understand Rio+20 as not a failure. The language of outcome documents

See NOTES on Page 13

A fable: The emperor's clothing!

By ANTHONY PELLEGRINO
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Pellegrino is a longtime businessman in the CNMI and is the former president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.

Once upon a time there was an emperor who loved clothes more than anything else. In fact he loved clothing so much that he changed his clothes almost every hour and spent much time admiring himself. Truthfully speaking, he spent most of his people's money on clothing for himself.

One day two swindlers posing as tailors came to the court and tricked the emperor into ordering a suit made of cloth with colors and patterns of extraordinary beauty, but they insisted that the clothes made from this cloth had the remarkable quality of being invisible to anyone who was a fool or unfit for the office he or she held.

They told the king to send only his most trusted ministers to view the clothing. Upon seeing the two swindlers sewing furiously, but seeing no clothes being sewed, the ministers thought that because they saw nothing they were fools and unfit for office. So they pretended to see the clothes anyway and made great gestures at how beautiful they were.

Even the emperor failed to see any garments but was afraid that he too might be considered a fool or unfit to be an emperor if he spoke the truth. So he pretended to see the clothes as had his ministers before him.

One day a great procession was held. The emperor undressed and put on his new clothes and marched proudly before all the townspeople. Though they saw only a naked emperor, the townspeople also pretended to see how extraordinarily beautiful were the emperor's colors and patterns. Everyone was afraid of being considered a fool or unfit for his position if they told what they truly saw. And that would be dreadful.

At last a child peered through the crowd and cried out loudly: "But the emperor has no clothes on!" The mother tried to hush the child, but then she looked again. "Oh, no!" she said. "Can it be true?"

Everyone began to whisper what the child had said. Then they all began to cry out together, "But the emperor has no clothes on!" The emperor heard them and his ears burned bright red. He realized they were right, but there was nothing he could do. And so the emperor lifted his head higher still and kept walking.

Even if he had no clothes on, he would still carry himself as an emperor should. His ministers followed him, looking even more dignified than before, carrying in their hands a flowing robe that did not exist.

Since I was a child, this has always been one of my favorite fairy tales by Hans Christian Anderson. However as an adult I see a different truth and meaning in it. Like the child in the story who saw what everyone else in the village refused to see, I feel compelled to tell "it" as I see it.

The most obvious interpretation of this story is that people who point out the emptiness of powerful people and institutions are often compared to the child who says that the emperor has no clothes on. In other words, the title is often used to describe a situation in which people are afraid to criticize something because everyone else thinks it is good or important. We don't want to go against the mainstream whether we feel it is correct or not. After all, who wants to be considered a fool?

Let's look at some of today's problems that face us. The Retirement Fund is on its last breath, CUC cannot seem to improve itself, suddenly money has been found to restore an 80-hour two-week payroll (from where?), CHC is in a coma and losing doctors and nurses almost daily, more and more people are getting on welfare, etc. Yet we remain deadlocked in political arguments. And as soon as suggested solutions are made, why do they immediately degenerate into contentious political issues? Where is the child among us? Why do we allow the emperor to insist that his clothes are what they are?

Let me venture forth several solutions for improving our government. They are intended to start us thinking that we can improve and change what we are doing if only we, like the small child, will speak out and tell it as we see the situations. For example:

1. Reduce the salary and allowances of all elected officials and discourage them from making a career of politics. Study what legislators in other states are receiving, for example Hawaii. The Hawaiian legislative session is 60 days long. The Senate president and the Speaker of the House each get $37,000 per year. All other legislators get $32,000 per year. There is more about their expenses. Look it up. Yet Hawaii has over a million population and over several million tourists per year. How do they do it and we cannot with a much smaller population and number of tourists?

2. Reduce the number of legislators and impose term limits. Do we need so many? Guam has only 15.

3. Have each candidate explain what he has done to help our community before running for office. How many of our leaders have an impressive background before running for an elected office?

5. Reduce the number of government employees if we are to live within our means. Stop making government employment the dream job of our citizens. Has the government been run less efficiently while on a 32-hour work week? Will it be that more efficient once we return to a 40-hour week? Do we truly believe this?

6. Train more local people for jobs to replace nonresident workers. Insist that many of the over 12,000 food stamp recipients get a job or get training for jobs. Restore pride in them.

7. And the most difficult of all—learn to live within our means. Do we have the courage?

There are more suggestions, but we can start with these. Of course, these changes will never happen. Who will take the lead in implementing them? But I thought I would state them anyway. We can just keep believing that the emperor has clothes on even though we know better. After all, do we want to be considered stupid or unfit for our government jobs?

We continue having some of our government agencies on an emergency status. What this is supposed to do in solving our problems I don't know. But after all didn't the emperor believe in his wonderful invisible clothing? Please help find the little child that sees that the emperor has no clothes. Until we become him and speak out strongly, we will continue in the state we are.

In closing, what more can be said about our situation that we

See FABLE on Page 13

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Historical impacts and community resilience to natural changes

By BENIGNO R. FITIAL
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Benigno R. Fitial is the governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Editor's Note: *The following is a speech that Gov. Benigno R. Fitial delivered at a climate change symposium held at the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian last week in Washington, D.C.*

As a Refaluwasch descendant, my native people's roots originated from the island of Satawal, in what was formerly known as the Caroline Islands. Today, the island is a part of the state of Yap in the Federated States of Micronesia. As the name implies, these islands are "micro," or small islands. Some islands are so small that you can see the ocean from any given point on the island.

As Refaluwasch, or Carolinians, we are known for our skills in the art of traditional non-instrument navigation. Navigators utilized the stars, ocean currents, and winds to make our voyages across the Pacific Ocean to visit family and friends and to feed our people. These trips are oftentimes perilous, and our people who take them are very brave.

The seafaring people of Micronesia continue their sailing traditions today. My late cousin, Mau Piailug, is a well-known navigator. He was the first to share our seafaring knowledge with the outside world. His, and our legacy, lives on through the reintroduction of traditional navigation to our brothers and sisters in the state of Hawaii. Mau's gift of his navigational knowledge is a lingering reminder that our tradition and culture hold the key to our survival.

Hundreds of years ago, after intense typhoons destroyed most of the Caroline Islands, some of our people left Satawal and settled on Saipan. Our Refaluwasch people were familiar with Saipan because centuries before, our ancestors routinely traveled to these islands on our oceanic sailing canoes to trade goods with the Chamorro. This trade stopped after the Spanish conquered Saipan, Guam, and the other islands that comprise the Marianas Archipelago because the Refaluwasch people heard that the Spaniards were mistreating the Chamorro people.

To survive after our translocation to Saipan, our people relied on our traditional resource use and management practices to adapt to changes in our new environment. One of our traditional practices, which I understand we share with other native cultures, is to use every part of a fish or plant for maximum benefit. Another practice is to grow and harvest resources that are appropriate to the changing natural conditions, such as drought and extreme rainfall. Perhaps the greatest tradition that our people practice is to work together, to share, and to cooperate. These approaches were necessary for our people to adapt to the lifestyles of the past. These traditional practices also brought people together as one community.

Today, we use our traditional approaches to resource use and management to adapt not only to the changes caused by nature, but also by those caused by man.

As governor of a group of islands surrounded by water and far from large landmasses, I strive to remain informed about the changing world environment. I place a high priority on this issue because I know that even the smallest of changes can have a significant impact on our small islands.

Scientists and managers around the world tell us that increased carbon in the atmosphere is leading to global warming, and in turn, is causing more carbon to be absorbed by our oceans and affecting our coral reefs.

> *Today, we use our traditional approaches to resource use and management to adapt not only to the changes caused by nature, but also by those caused by man.*

Coral reefs are one of the most important areas for the cultures of both the Refaluwasch and the Chamorro, the two recognized indigenous communities in the Northern Mariana Islands. Both communities depend on the coral reef for protection from the waves, especially during typhoons. The coral ecosystem also serves as our main source of traditional and cultural foods.

These coral reefs, which are so vital to our livelihoods and culture, are susceptible not only to strong waves generated from extreme weather events, but also to changes in water temperature, salinity, and turbidity, caused by global warming and other man-made activities. From our traditional knowledge, and based on generations of direct observation, we know that changes in rainfall patterns and storm seasonality can affect a fish's cue to complete its life cycle. Similarly, plants are also dependent upon cues from the weather to flower and fruit. If we lose our corals, we risk losing integral aspects of our traditions and our culture.

Although our island people are not a major cause of the carbon in the atmosphere, we are looking to help mitigate this problem through alternative energy pilot projects. We have initiated efforts in generating electricity through wind turbines and harnessing energy from the sun. Given that our islands are volcanic, my administration is actively undertaking steps toward the exploration and assessment of geothermal energy on Saipan. Several locations have already been tested and found to have adequate heat to generate this type of power.

In the CNMI, we are also working to help make our resources more resilient to climate-induced changes. To reduce sediments, nutrients, and other land-based sources of pollution that are impacting our coral reefs, we are stabilizing our soils through re-vegetation projects. We are also minimizing the impact of tourism and recreational activities through education, outreach, and cleanup activities. We are regulating fishing practices that are considered harmful to the environment.

Acknowledging that we can't control the rainfall, we are also implementing road and drainage improvements to make sure that the fresh water continues to replenish the land and near-shore ecosystems, decrease erosion and support coral reef ecosystem health. These are things we *can* control now to ensure that the impacts we feel from a changing climate are not compounded by our current actions. This is a prime example of our ability to prepare the way to tomorrow, today.

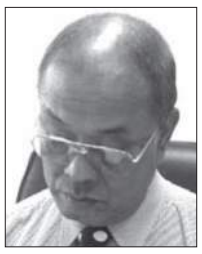
Unfortunately, in our desire to protect the environment from the effects of anticipated climate change impacts, our governments, both local and federal, sometimes adopt policies that are detrimental to the survival of indigenous cultures.

What weight do our cultures have when policies are imposed upon us to close traditional fishing and gathering areas; ban sustainable harvesting practices, or prohibit the taking of traditional plants and animals that we rely on for sustenance?

This is why I strongly believe that it is imperative that consultation with native peoples should be conducted before these kinds of decisions are made. A good example of this is the consultation required under provisions of the Endangered Species Act, in Section

See HISTORICAL on Page 13

Sustansian Ma-pa'ug



By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.*

Sige hu akanteha haf' sustansiaña i kustumbren "ma-pa'ug" (pa'ug i orihinat na palabra) gi kutturan Chamorro. Ayu kinemprendeghu i esplikasion Señor Guelon Fadañg 'sino i amiguhu as Tom Mendiola. Guiya este i matatpañgen natibu gi inayegña na na'an Chamorro.

I machocho'gue i antigosu na patte gi kuttura. Hagas otru na'aña i Chamorro esta'i finatton Español. Dididi' uma'achule' yan dobladan kutturan Indian giya America.

I pattisipasion tautau-ta sige ma-umenta. Ginen este na pisu siempre i natibu pinañgon ya ha tutuhon pinetsigen mana' fitme direchon tautau tanu' gi todu sustansiau na kinalamten. Estake para u to'a este na kinalamten, taya' dinidahu na u fañaunau i man-ma-eduka siha na famaguonta. Siha u minantene i timon futturon natibu guine gi O'Perlas Iya Pasifiku kumu sinsiyu na famaguon tanu.

Estague' sustansian ma-pa'ug ya u saga kumu fitme na pisun satton na dinaña natibu gi enteru atkipelagon iya Marianas. Estague' fumañagu un' silensiu na sentimentu pot dignun yan onrun natibu. Estague' 'nai u saga i sinsiyu na dinisehan tautau-ta.

■ ■ ■ ■

Kulan mau'udai este na sentimentu gi hinasson mafanana'an nasionalista. Este na sentimentu ha choneg satton na pinetsigen u tachu i natibu gi mas unrau na modun gobietnamentu ke haf' gaige pagu. Gi otru banda, guaha ha' lokue' u fanachu gi hafa guaha pagu gi papa' i kontratan i Covenant. I relasion Marianas yan Estados Unidos De America petmanente segun i ma-apprueba na kontrata. Lau 'nai listu pot adelantoña sa' hafa na para umachanda i minalago'ña. Naturat este na pasu 'sino eskalera.

Hu diside dumiskute este na asuntu sa' para mona siempre u kahulu man-loka' na chubasku na dibate pot onrun yan dignun natibu. Siña ha' bastus yan metgot na lañgat gi tutuhon lau u katma tatte i tasin iya Pasifiku ya u sedi hit kumayon sinsiyu na dinisehan lina'la' satton na onru yan dignu. Para i chumahlau este na katgu, hu diseseha bien felis. Fan asustene fitme gi hilu inafamauleg sa' makat fotmasion nasion un' grupon isla.

Dispasiu na tinituhon lau fitme na pisu ni para u finañagu ginen ma-pa'ug natibu. Ni unu u seha sa' taya ta aliligau i fitme na inestablesen onrun yan dignun natibu.

■ ■ ■ ■

Ma-utut fondun medical referral

Tat nasion tinina' dimu 'nai mattu gi gastun fondun ritirau yan hinemlu'. I mefe'na makat sa' megaiña gastu ke humahalom na salape'. Parehu tiru gi segundu na asuntu. Estague' mina' dañkulu yan esta rinimulinu gi halom chubasku este na asuntu.

Dimas de tafan sige man-dibaten kulan sabiun i hegsu' i Deni, hita mismu ta atan haf' homlu' na pinetsige pot para tana' homlu' kinalamten petsonat yan familia. Taimanu hagas hu repite: este na asuntu gaige giya hagu mismu. Hagu ha' solu timuneru ya hagu ha' solu rumesponsasable para unna' safu biahen batkomu.

■ ■ ■ ■

Magahet na lamegai finaposhu pot asuntun hinemlu' deste CHC esta UCLA Medical Center giya Los Angeles gi ochenta yan nobenta siha na sakan. Ayu 'nai hu lie' haf' sustansiaña hinemlu'. Ayu lokue' na hospitat 'nai hu lie' na sin insurance ti un ma-attende. Ayu lokue' na hospitat 'nai hu lie' haye para uma-attende emerensiha. Yangin gaige hau gi halom trenta ni finalaguen ambulance ya tai chansa hau la'la', pues machoneg hau gi un' banda ya ma-attende otru. Estague tirun man-dañkulu siha na hospitat halom siuda.

Man-suette hit sa' ni unu mañega setbisiun hinemlu'. Maseha guaha 'nai atrasau ñaihon lau ma-attende hau dispues. I mas puti gi malañgu yan familiaña (ya hu lie' este masusede giya Honolulu) i uttimu na finu' i mediku na taya' esta remediu para umana' homlu' i prohimu.

Tumekun i patgon (sutteritu) iluña gi un' banda mientras sige si nanaña tumañges. Esta hu a'aka' amañghu para bai' batbaruye i momentu. Lau kada ratu ha agañgyu' i patgon para bai'n konbetsasion. Ha tuñgu' na gi finatoña mage ti apmam siempre u hanau.

Todu malahyu ha'anihu 'nai hu konsidedera i magof mataña guihe na pupueñge. Mañge' chaka chalelegña 'an sige kumonbetsasion yan nanaña. Magahet na ti apmam deste ke mattu tatte ma-agañg para i tai hinekog na deskansoña. Lau chetton magof mataña gi hinasoghu. Makat na tiru i hinanau dimalas gi bandan hinemlu'.

■ ■ ■ ■

Guaha gi chetnot natibu ginen bisiun linala'ta. Guaha ha' lokue' gaige gi haga' ni ginen as guelu yan guela. I primet libianu ta tulaika. I segundu kanaha' makat soluke deste tutuhon ta adahe todus kinalamtenta para u menus i chetnot 'an mattu giya hita. Atetuye satton i hinemlu' miyu.

■ ■ ■ ■

Fitme hu disidi na bai' deskansa petmanente mañge gi finu' Chamorro gi uttimun este na sakan. Yangin guaha gai interes kumontinua pues natuñgu'yu' ya bai' introduse hau halom gi gaseta. Naturat na maseha haf' na tinituhon, siempre u gai finagpu' kulan kinahulu' yan minachum atdau. Este na disisionhu ti umatulaika.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. East winds 5 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼76°	▲88 ° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°

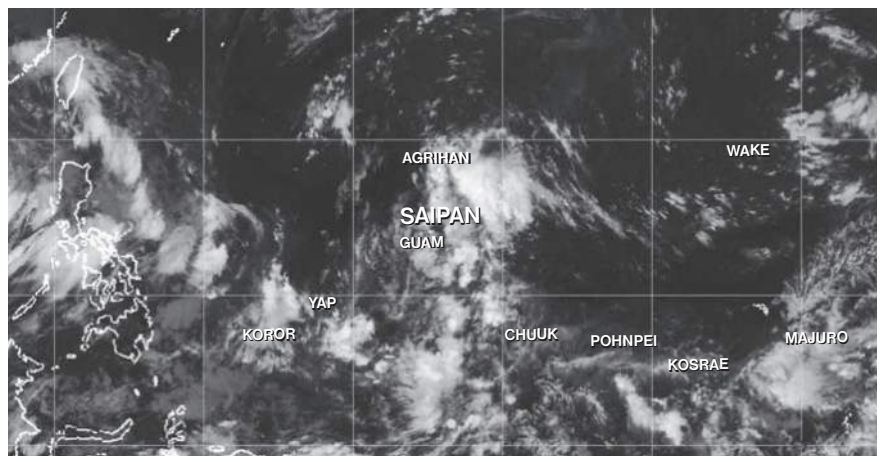
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲86	▼81
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲83	▼75
Yap	Showers	▲89	▼77
Chuuk	Showers	▲84	▼78
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼75
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼75
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼81

Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲61	▼58
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲88	▼70
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲89	▼83
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	▲84	▼74
London	Cloudy	▲76	▼61
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	▲81	▼65
Manila	Thundershowers	▲83	▼80
Melbourne	Cloudy	▲60	▼40
Miami	Thundershowers	▲86	▼79
New York	Thundershowers	▲84	▼74
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲88	▼76
Paris	Sunny	▲78	▼56
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	▲82	▼74
Rome	Thundershowers	▲82	▼66
Salem	Sunny	▲75	▼53
San Francisco	Sunny	▲68	▼57
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲86	▼73
Tokyo	Thundershowers	▲86	▼75
Washington, DC	Thundershowers	▲91	▼78

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, JULY 22, 2012
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A monsoon trough meanders eastward through 17N130E to a circulation centered west of the CNMI at 17N137E then turns south to another circulation southeast of Yap at 17N142E turning southeastward to end south of Pohnpei at EQ160E. Converging winds along the trough are generating scattered showers and a few thunderstorms well northwest of Koror west of a line from 17N132E to 10N132E across Yap and Koror within 175 miles of a line from 9N134E to 6N141E and west of Chuuk within 175 miles of a line from 8N147E to 2N146E. A surface trough extends northeastward across the far northern CNMI from 18N144E to 22N150E. Another surface trough extends northeast near Guam from 12N144E to 16N149E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found across the Marianas between 10N and 20N from 144E to 151E. An upper-level low is centered northwest of Saipan at 18N138E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are found southwest of Iwo To island between 20N and 23N from 137E to 140E. Trade-wind convergence is generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms near Majuro and across Butaritari and Tarawa within 200 miles of a line from 5N167E to 5N180. Another upper-level low is centered northeast of Wake Island at 23N170E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found east of Wake Island east of a line from 22N169E to 19N169E to 16N171E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

5:38 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.8 Feet
10:49 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
5:31 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:57 AM	6:50 PM
Tuesday	5:57 AM	6:50 PM
Wednesday	5:58 AM	6:49 PM
Thursday	5:58 AM	6:49 PM
Friday	5:58 AM	6:49 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	9:16 AM	9:37 PM
Tuesday	10:10 AM	10:20 PM
Wednesday	11:06 AM	11:06 PM
Thursday	12:03 PM	11:54 PM
Friday	1:03 PM	

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Saturday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $160. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 14, 2012

DEPARTURES

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA5062	2:40am	3:10am	1, 3, 5
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			
UA5070	4:35am	5:25am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5062	4:50am	5:40am	1, 3, 5
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA5074	11:30am	12:20pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5076	3:10pm	4:00pm	Daily
UA5078	6:50pm	7:40pm	Daily
UA5072	9:55pm	10:45pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)			
DL287	6:05am	8:45am	Daily
DL285	6:30am	9:15am	1, 3, 5, 7
DL297	4:35pm	7:20pm	Daily
SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)			
0Z606/120	2:20am	8:50pm	1 via ICN
0Z606/120	2:50am	8:50pm	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)			
0Z606	2:20am	6:00am	1
0Z606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
0Z604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily
SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)			
0Z606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
0Z606/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/191	4:35am	9:55am	3, 6 via GUM
DL287/173	6:05am	10:00pm	Daily via NRT
UA5076/183	3:10pm	8:45pm	Daily via GUM
UA5076/193	3:10pm	10:25pm	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
0Z604/703	3:30pm	10:40pm	Daily via ICN
UA5072/PR111	9:55pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)			
0Z606/721	2:20am	11:50pm	1 via ICN
0Z606/721	2:50am	11:50pm	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5076/147	3:10pm	9:45pm	1, 5 via GUM
0Z604/723	3:30pm	10:40pm	Daily via ICN

ARRIVALS

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)			
UA5062	3:40am	5:40am	1, 3, 5 via SPN
ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN (SPN)			
UA5062	3:40am	4:15am	1, 3, 5
GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA5062	2:40am	4:15am	1, 3, 5 via ROP
UA 5069	2:45am	3:35am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5071	7:10am	8:00am	Daily
UA5073	10:05am	10:55am	Daily
UA5075	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5077	5:25pm	6:15pm	Daily
UA5079	8:35pm	9:25pm	Daily
NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL286	7:40pm	12:15am +1	2, 4, 6, 7
DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL288	8:15pm	12:50am+1	Daily
OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN			
0Z119/606	9:30am	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
0Z119/606	9:30am	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
0Z603	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
0Z605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
0Z605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
DL172/288	7:50am	12:50am+1	Daily via NRT
UA190/5077	10:55am	6:15pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA190/5079	10:55am	9:25pm	3, 6 via GUM
0Z702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
0Z702/605	12:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA5071	10:10pm	8:00am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA192/5071	9:45pm	8:00am+1	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
UA184/5071	10:55pm	8:00am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:25pm	8:00am+1	2, 5 via GUM
0Z704/603	11:40pm	2:20pm+1	Daily via ICN
HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
0Z724/603	12:30am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
0Z722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7
0Z722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
UA180/5071	10:35pm	8:00am+1	1, 5 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

OPINION

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Miscarriage of justice

Back in the ’80s I attended a training courses called Criminal Justice Academy. The instructors were acting chief justice Alexander Castro, former associate judge Timothy Bellas, and former attorney general Alex Kosack. They were all prosecutors from the Office of the Attorney General back in the ’80s. It was a very good course, having the privilege and the opportunity to learn about the laws and procedures of the CNMI traffic code, homicide cases, and searches and seizures.

Enforcing the law is a challenging career and it is not an easy task but what bothers me is an article in the *Saipan Tribune* dated July 18, 2012, with the title “Woman found not guilty.” What concerns me is that a local court judge and the lawyer for the defendant worked together in the past and also they are cousins. I believe some people know about the judge and lawyer. So in my opinion, the judge should have recused himself from presiding over the bench trial. Is it fair, for example, if my brother is going to be on bench trial and I would be the judge on the trial? What would the people think and say? But suppose that any lawyer who wins his case over the government because the government failed to proof its case beyond a reasonable doubt and as a judge I found him not guilty? For sure the people would think the negative way. In my opinion, in this kind of situation the rule of conflict of interest shall apply. I just want to let the people of the CNMI know that I have nothing against the judge and the lawyer. It’s only a matter for concern.

Ray Agulto
Kannat Tabla, Saipan

Simple questions

This is a simple question and I hope the Executive Branch and the Legislature can answer it for all defined benefit plan members: Why do you need to buy back Social Security? Can’t you just enroll them into Social Security, just like everyone else?

Also, since the active members are not going to be able to retire, why is it so difficult for you to give them their contribution back?

Taking their money to buyback is not constitutional or shall I say not fair? They won’t be able to see their money until they are 62. God knows if they’ll ever reach that age.

Are you aware that this action could lead to a lawsuit by the members? It’s enough that the board of trustee is spending their money for attorneys that is not addressing this problem, but addressing their problem between you and them.

This issue concerns the members of the DBP. Why are you not meeting with them to hear their opinion? Is there something they need to know?

Good day, and hope you answer these simple questions.

Winnie Atalig
San Jose, Tinian

NOTES

From Page 10

in UN conferences are arrived at by consensus. Thus, Rio+20 reflected where there was and was not consensus on future commitments. While progress on new commitments would have been preferable, the central issue became whether governments would preserve the basic principles of sustainable development adopted at Rio in 1992, principles such as social equity, gender equality, common but differentiated responsibilities, human rights, the polluter pays, the precautionary principle and the right to development. The reaffirmation of these principles became the limited success of the governmental portion of Rio+20.

The greater achievements came in the civil society portion. More than 30,000 civil society representatives participated in the official Rio+20 conference and 100,000 more in the concurrent People’s Summit, protest marches, and business and professional gatherings. Knowing the limitations of the official outcome document, activists released 14 People’s Sustainability Treaties and a Manifesto. Brazil’s President Rousseff called Rio+20 “a global expression of democracy.”

People who gathered in Rio knew the official results of the conference would be limited. We came to network and set the stage for the next phase of the UN sustainable development process, the shaping of the post 2015-development agenda in which the present Millennium Development Goals will be integrated into more ambitious sustainable development goals. We left to form a global citizens’ movement to take sustainable development action now and to develop the political will for global policy change. Rio+20 was not an end, it was a new beginning.

FABLE

From Page 10

don’t know? We need unification of our citizens and working together in making improvements. But most important of all, it is not who gets the credits but what the results are! I do not know the answers alone, but together coupled with a firm determination and open frankness, we will improve and become prosperous and happy again before it becomes too late. Please find the child within ourselves who will tell the truth!

My father told me when I was young to remember this: “There is never guaranteed success in anything you try to do, but there is guaranteed failure in not trying.”

Have a great week and at least let’s smile at one another. Smiling is the universal language!

HISTORICAL

From Page 10

106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, and in other government actions. These statutes require that native communities be consulted on any project that would impact any place of religious or cultural significance to native people. It is important that this consultation takes place not only consistently, but also in a sincere, authentic manner, and not to merely fulfill a requirement. The native voice must be heard; and it must be heard loud and clear!

We are here this week to share our experiences and to learn from the original stewards of America and the Pacific on how we can adapt to the changing environment in a manner that is culturally appropriate and respectful of our traditions. However, we cannot do it alone. Our governments, locally, nationally, and internationally, must craft and implement sound policies. Likewise, our governments, non-government organizations, businesses, and communities, must support and invest in technologies that focus on energy efficiency, energy conservation, and clean, renewable energy sources that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

By using the traditional practice of working together with sincere cooperation and assistance—with the same spirited “Aloha tradition” that Peter Apo spoke of at the opening of this Symposium—we can all arrive at a point where we each agree to be responsible for each other and our environments.

Together, we can make it happen. I believe we can and I believe we will succeed!

Business

Murdoch steps down from boards of UK newspapers

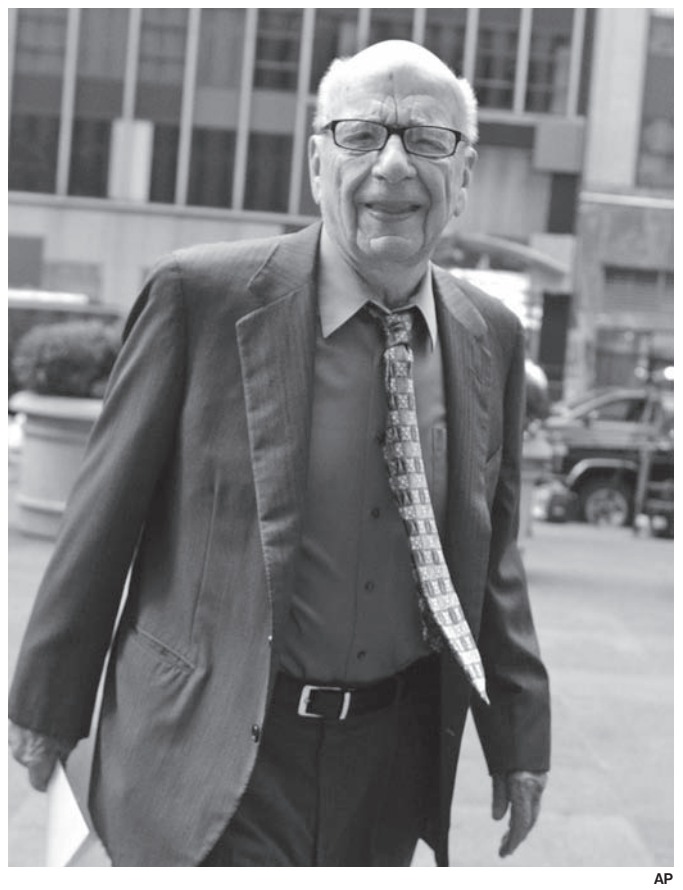
LONDON (AP)—Media mogul Rupert Murdoch has resigned as a director of a number of News Corp. boards overseeing his Britain newspapers, a spokeswoman confirmed Saturday. He also quit from some of the media company’s subsidiary boards in the United States.

Murdoch stepped down this past week as a director of NI Group, Times Newspaper Holdings and News Corp. Investments in the U.K., said Daisy Dunlop, spokeswoman for News Corp.’s British arm, News International. The companies oversee The Sun, The Times, and The Sunday Times.

It was not immediately clear which of News Corp.’s U.S. boards Murdoch had left. Britain’s Telegraph newspaper, which first reported the news late Saturday, said those details had not yet been disclosed by the US Securities and Exchange Commission.

News International sought to play down the significance of the resignations, saying in a statement that “this is nothing more than a corporate housecleaning exercise prior to the company split.”

That was a reference to News Corp.’s announcement June 28 that it would separate its publishing business, which includes The Wall Street Journal, from its much more profitable media and entertainment business - forming two distinct, publicly traded companies. Under those proposed changes, Murdoch, 81, will chair both of the companies, although he would continue as chief executive of the media and entertainment company only.



AP
In this July 22, 2011 file photo, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of News Corporation Rupert Murdoch enters the News Corp. building, in New York.

Saturday’s announcement suggests that Murdoch may be distancing himself from his British newspaper interests, which have been shaken to the core by a widespread phone hacking scandal.

The scandal erupted anew last year when it emerged that Murdoch’s now-defunct News of the World tabloid had systematically hacked voicemails of politicians and celebrities. The revelations have rocked Britain’s establishment and triggered three parallel police investigations that have resulted in more than 40 arrests. Illegal eavesdropping allegations at the News of the World led to the resignation of Rebekah Brooks, then-CEO of News International, who has been accused of perverting justice in the scandal.

Manufacturing problem caused Ford Escape recall

DETROIT (AP)—A manufacturing problem at a company that makes fuel lines forced Ford to recall thousands of its brand-new Escape small SUVs and tell owners to stop driving them right away.

Ford Motor Co. announced the recall Thursday, saying there was a risk of an engine fire.

In documents filed by Ford and posted Friday on the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration’s website, the company said fuel lines were “mechanically scored” or damaged on the outside during manufacturing. The lines, made by a TI Group Automotive Systems plant in Indiana, can split when pushed over a connector fitting, and leaking fuel could ignite.

The recall involved 11,500 Escapes. About 4,800 have been sold to customers; the rest are still on dealer lots.

Ford urged customers in the U.S. and Canada not to drive the SUVs and to contact dealers, who would pick up the Escape and drop off a loaner car. The problem affects only 2013 Escapes equipped with 1.6-liter, four-cylinder engines.

TI Automotive spokesman Frank Buscemi said in an email that the company is “working with Ford to identify root cause and resolve the issue.”

The problem was discovered June 9 when a newly built Escape caught fire while a Ford worker was driving it from the Louisville Assembly Plant in Kentucky to a holding lot for shipping, the documents said. After two more fires—one on June 18 involving an Escape being driven by a customer in Canada—Ford engineers determined that the problem involved the engine compartment fuel line.

The company approved the recall on July 16, according to the documents.

No one was hurt in any of the three fires, the documents said.

“Vehicles are not to be driven until this repair has been completed,” Ford said in a letter dated Thursday telling dealers how to handle the problem. The warning not to drive the Escapes was in all caps and red ink. The company is telling dealers to tow the Escapes in for service.

It took 40 days from the first fire until the SUVs were recalled. Ford said Thursday it moved quickly to keep its customers safe. Ford hopes to have the repairs completed within two weeks.

This was the second recall of the new Escape in less than a week. Ford is recalling more than 10,000 Escapes to fix carpet padding that could interfere with braking. The Escape was the nation’s top-selling SUV in June and is one of Ford’s most popular vehicles

Problems often crop up when new vehicles are introduced, even though automakers have improved quality in recent years.

Nation

Police: Colo. suspect planned massacre for months

By THOMAS PEIPERT and MEAD GRUVER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

AURORA, Colo. (AP)—The shooting suspect accused in a deadly rampage inside a Colorado theater planned the attack with "calculation and deliberation," police said Saturday, receiving deliveries by mail that authorities believe armed him for battle and were used to rig his apartment with dozens of bombs.

Meanwhile, new details about 24-year-old James Holmes emerged, including summer jobs the suspect held in Southern California as a camp counselor and as an intern at a prominent research institute.

■■■

WASHINGTON (AP)—A federal law enforcement official says the semi-automatic assault rifle used in the deadly Colorado movie theater shooting jammed during the attack.

The official said late Saturday the rifle had a high-capacity ammunition magazine which, based on witness accounts and evidence collected at the scene, apparently jammed. The rifle's malfunction then forced the suspected shooter, James Holmes, to switch to another weapon.

The official spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss the investigation.

Aurora Police Chief Dan Oates has said a 100-round drum magazine was recovered at the scene of the shooting in suburban Denver. Oates said such a weapon was capable of firing 50 to 60 rounds a minute.

Police said Holmes also had two Glock pistols and a shotgun.

■■■

In Aurora, investigators spent hours Saturday removing explosive materials from inside Holmes' suburban Denver apartment a day after police said he opened fire and set off gas canisters in a theater minutes into a premiere of the Batman film "The Dark Knight Rises." The massacre left 12 people dead and 58 injured.

His apartment was rigged with jars of liquids, explosives and chemicals that were booby trapped to kill "whoever entered it," Aurora Police Chief Dan Oates said, noting it would have likely been one of his officers.

Holmes received several mail deliveries over four months to his home and school and bought thousands rounds of ammunition on the Internet.

"He had a high volume of deliveries," Oates said. "We think this explains how he got his hands on the magazine, ammunition," he said, as well as the rigged explosives in his apartment.

"What we're seeing here is evidence of some calculation and deliberation," Oates added.

Inside the apartment, FBI Special agent James Yacone said bomb technicians neutralized what he called a "hypergolic mixture" and an improvised explosive device containing an unknown substance. There also were multiple containers of accelerants.

"It was an extremely dangerous environment," Yacone said at a news conference, noting that anyone who walked in would have sustained "significant injuries" or been killed.

By late afternoon, all hazards have been removed from the Holmes' apartment and residents in surrounding buildings were allowed to return home, police said.

The exception was Holmes' apartment building, where authorities were still collecting evidence. Inside the apartment, authorities began covering the windows with black plastic to prevent onlookers from seeing in. Before they did, a man in an ATF T-shirt could be seen measuring a poster on a closet that advertised a DVD called "Soldiers of Misfortune." The poster showed several figures in various positions playing paintball, some wearing masks.

About 8 p.m., police left the apartment building carrying a laptop computer and a hard drive.

While authorities continued to refuse to discuss a possible motive for one of the deadliest mass shootings in recent U.S. history, details about Holmes' background as a student and would-be scientist trickled out Saturday.

Holmes had recently withdrawn from a competitive graduate program in neuroscience at the University of Colorado-Denver, where he was one of six students at the school to get National Institutes of Health grant money. He recently took an intense three-part, oral exam that marks the end of the first year of the four-year program there, but university officials would not say if he passed, citing privacy concerns.

In a resume posted on Monster.com, Holmes listed himself as an "aspiring scientist" and said he was looking for a job as a laboratory technician.

The resume, first obtained by The Press-Enterprise in Riverside, paints a picture of a brilliant young man brimming with potential: He worked as a summer intern at the Salk Institute for Biological Studies in La Jolla in 2006 and mapped the neurons of Zebra finches and studied the flight muscles of hummingbirds while an undergraduate at the University of California, Riverside.

He also worked as a cabin counselor to underprivileged children at a summer camp in Los Angeles in 2008. In a statement, Camp Max Straus confirmed Holmes had worked there for eight weeks. The camp provided no other detail about Holmes but said such counselors are generally responsible for the care and guidance of roughly 10 children.

Neighbors and former classmates in California said although Holmes was whip-smart, he was a loner who said little and was easily forgotten—until this week.

Mary Muscari, a criminology professor at Regis University in Denver who studies mass killings, said she was not surprised Holmes was studying neuroscience and mental disorders.

"It could be he was interested in that because he knows there's something different in him," she said.

Events at the theater

Shooting suspect James Holmes allegedly parked his car behind the theater in Aurora, Colo., bought a ticket to the July 20 premiere of the new Batman movie, entered the theatre, propped open a rear exit door, and returned to begin his attack in Theater 9 of the complex. Looking at the chain of events:

July 20

NOTE: all times local

❶ **About midnight** Suspect seen leaving Theater 9 through rear

❷ **About 12:30 a.m.** Suspect re-enters theater, wearing flak jacket, gas mask; hurls gas canisters, opens fire, moving up and down right-side aisle

❸ **12:41 a.m.** First police arrive outside

❹ **12:45 a.m.** Suspect spotted on south side of theater

❺ **12:46 a.m.** Police detain suspect, find weapons in car

❻ **12:54 a.m.** Police begin driving wounded to area hospitals in squad cars

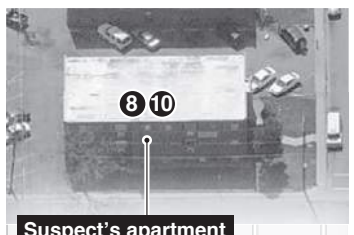
❼ **1:16 a.m.** Deaths confirmed in theater

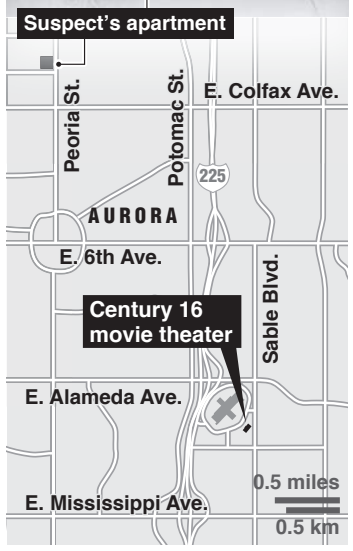
❽ **1:18 a.m.** Police prepare to search suspect's apartment

❾ **1:40 a.m.** 18 ambulances on the scene; 57 victims taken to five area hospitals

July 21

❿ **About 2 p.m.** Police disable trip wire attached to apartment door; efforts to secure apartment continue; names of all those killed released





Holmes
Was in process of withdrawing from a Ph.D. neuroscience program; no known motive, believed to have acted alone

Source: ESRI, MCT Photo Service, Denver Post, AP, Bing Graphic: Robert Dorrell © 2012 MCT

News guide to the Colorado movie theater massacre

Here's a guide to some key questions in the wake of the mass shooting at a Colorado movie theater during a showing of "The Dark Knight Rises."

Q: WHAT HAPPENED?

A: On Friday, shortly after midnight Thursday, a gunman wearing a gas mask and black SWAT gear set off two gas canisters and then opened fire inside a crowded theater in the Denver suburb of Aurora, Colo., killing 12 people and wounding nearly 60 others, authorities said. The suspect was arrested near a car behind the theater and identified as 24-year-old James Holmes. Authorities have not released a motive.

Q: WHO IS THE SUSPECT?

A: Holmes was studying neuroscience in a Ph.D. program at the University of Colorado-Denver. He enrolled in June 2011 but left a year later, though it wasn't immediately clear why.

He played soccer at Westview High School in the San Diego area and graduated with honors from the University of California, Riverside, in spring 2010 with a bachelor's degree in neuroscience.

Those who knew Holmes described him as a shy, intelligent man who grew up in San Diego with parents who were active in their well-to-do suburban neighborhood.

Q: WHAT IS GOING ON AT HOLMES' APARTMENT?

A: Police disarmed trip wires and explosive devices that authorities said were "set up to kill" people inside Holmes' third-floor apartment, which is about four miles from the theater. They had removed "all hazards" by Saturday evening, but residents of that building remained under evacuation orders.

Authorities are hoping to find clues to his motive without destroying key evidence in a blast.

Q: WHO WAS HURT IN THE THEATER?

A: Many victims treated at hospitals were under 40, including a 4-month-old baby. The oldest reported patient was 45. The youngest victim who died was a 6-year-old girl.

Victims were treated for chemical exposure, apparently related to the canisters thrown by the gunman, and gunshot and shrapnel wounds.

The U.S. military said two active duty service members—a sailor and an Air Force Reservist—also died in the shooting.

Also among the slain were a sports blogger who recently wrote about surviving a shooting in Canada and a man celebrating his 27th birthday and first wedding anniversary.

Q: WHO DIED IN THE SHOOTING?

A: According to the Arapahoe County coroner, the 12 people who died were: Veronica Moser-Sullivan, 6; Alexander J. Boik, 18; Micayla Medek, 23, of Westminster, Colo.; Jessica Ghawi, 24, of Denver; Alexander C. Teves, 24, of Phoenix; Jonathan T. Blunk, 26, of Aurora; Matt McQuinn, 27, of Denver; Alex Sullivan, 27, of Aurora; John Larimer, 27, of Buckley Air Force Base; Jesse Childress, 29, of Thornton, Colo.; Rebecca Ann Wingo, 32, of Aurora; and Gordon W. Cowden, 51, of Aurora.

Q: WAS THERE ANY LINK BETWEEN THE SHOOTING AND THE MOVIE?

A: It's unclear. New York City's police commissioner said he was told the gunman had painted his hair red and called himself the Joker—Batman's nemesis—but Aurora police would not confirm that.

In "The Dark Knight Rises," a masked villain leads a murderous crew into a packed football stadium and wages an attack involving guns and explosives. But violent attacks on the public by villains are key components of most superhero movies.

Q: HOW MANY GUNS DID THE SUSPECT HAVE?

A: Four. Officers found an AR-15 assault rifle—the civilian form of the M-16, a Remington 12-gauge shotgun and a .40-caliber Glock handgun in the theater, and another identical handgun in the car. The gunman also set off two devices that released smoke or an irritant, Aurora Police Chief Dan Oates said.

Q: WHEN WAS THE LAST MASS SHOOTING IN THE U.S.?

A: The massacre in Aurora was one of the deadliest in the U.S., and the worst mass shooting in the U.S. since the Nov. 5, 2009, attack at Fort Hood, Texas, when an Army psychiatrist killed 13 soldiers and civilians and wounded more than two dozen others.

In Colorado, it was the deadliest shooting since April 20, 1999, when two students opened fire at Columbine High School in the Denver suburb of Littleton, killing 12 classmates and a teacher and wounding 26 others before killing themselves.

Asia

ASEAN agrees on handling of South China Sea rifts

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (AP)—The Association of Southeast Asian Nations belatedly agreed Friday on a common statement on how to handle conflicting territorial claims in the South China Sea, but it failed to address the crux of last week's disagreements.

The Philippines and Vietnam had wanted the post-conference statement to mention their separate territorial disputes with China, including a reference to a recent standoff between China and the Philippines at a shoal claimed by both countries.

Cambodia, which hosted last week's meeting of ASEAN foreign ministers in Phnom Penh, had rejected that proposal. A close China ally, it has followed Beijing's stance that the disputes should not be brought to a multinational forum like ASEAN but instead should be negotiated by rival claimants one on one.

Friday's belated statement, released by Cambodia, failed to mention the touchy disputes. However, it did showcase a unified ASEAN stand on certain aspects of South China Sea disputes, such as a restated agreement to solve them peacefully.

While the Philippines backed the statement, Foreign Secretary Albert del Rosario said in Manila that his country would insist that the territorial disputes be mentioned in future ASEAN joint statements.

The Philippines and Vietnam say that Chinese aggression in the South China Sea could block freedom of navigation in the strategic and busy waters, which Beijing claims virtually in their entirety.

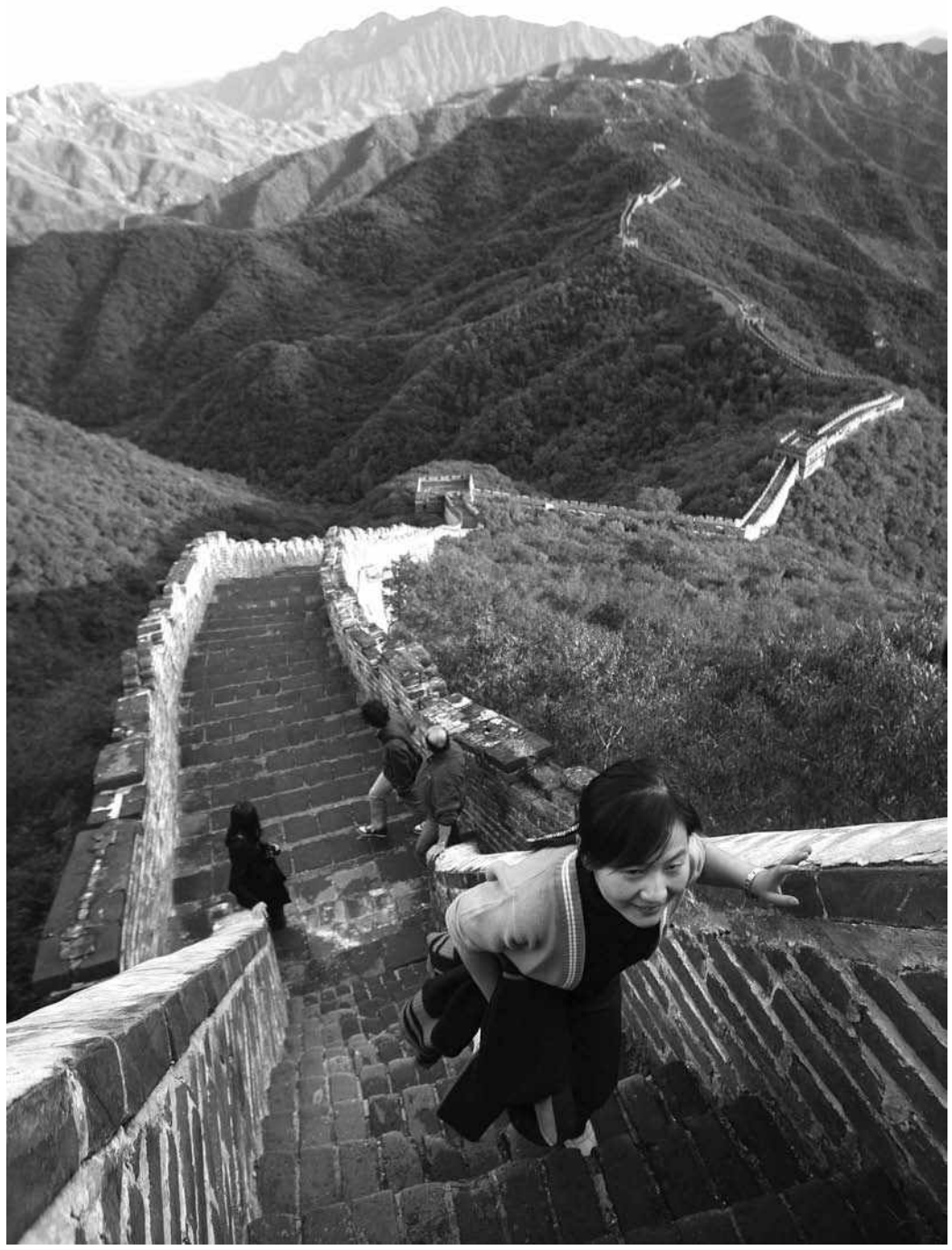
Because of the disagreements at last week's meeting, the foreign ministers failed to issue a post-conference statement for the first time in ASEAN's 45-year history, underscoring the divisions within the group over the handling of the South China Sea disputes.

Various longstanding disputes involving China, the Philippines, Vietnam, Taiwan, Malaysia and Brunei straddle busy sea lanes that are believed to be rich in oil and gas deposits. Many fear the disputes could spark a violent conflict.

The new statement calls in general terms for implementation of ASEAN-promoted principles for peaceful resolution of maritime disputes, including avoiding use of force, resolving the conflicts in accordance with international laws, and an early signing of a legally binding "code of conduct" aimed at thwarting any major armed conflict.

It was agreed upon after vigorous lobbying by Indonesian Foreign Minister Marty Natalegawa.

Singapore's foreign ministry welcomed it, saying: "It goes some way to repair the damage caused by the failure" of last week's meeting to release a statement.



LONGER

LOS ANGELES TIMES/MCT

Visitors explore a section of the Great Wall at Mutianyu, near Beijing, China. In early June, the State Administration of Cultural Heritage announced it now believes the Great Wall is a stunning 13,171 miles long, if you put all of the discovered portions end to end.

Muslims begin Ramadan fast; bombs hit Thai south

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)—Muslims have begun fasting for the start of the Ramadan holy month in Indonesia, Malaysia and elsewhere around Asia, but the somber occasion was marred in Buddhist-dominated Thailand by two bomb blasts that killed one person and injured seven.

The Muhammadiyah group, Indonesia's second-largest Muslim organization, told its 30 million followers that Ramadan starts Friday. The government, however, declared the official start as Saturday, when most of the remaining 190 million Indonesians began the dawn-to-dusk fast.

Muslims in Thailand also began Ramadan on Friday, while Malaysians began Saturday. India, Pakistan and Bangladesh were to start Saturday or Sunday.

The Muslim holy month devoted to dawn-to-dusk fasting, prayers and good deeds culminates with the three-day holiday of Eid al-Fitr.

Muslims believe God revealed the first verses of the Quran to the Prophet Muhammad during Ramadan, which starts with the sighting of the new moon. The Muslim lunar calendar moves back through the seasons, so Ramadan starts 11 days earlier each year under the Western calendar.

The holy month started ominously in southern Thailand, the region where most Thai Muslims live and where an insurgency has claimed thousands of lives. The car bombing started fires at shops and residences and sent black smoke wafting from a row of four-story buildings in a commercial area of Sungai Kolok in Narathiwat province.

Seven people were injured, including four who were briefly trapped on the roof of a burning building, said police Col. Maitree Chimcherd. He said Muslim insurgents hid the homemade bomb in a pickup truck parked in front of a computer store.

On Thursday night, a roadside bomb killed a villager and wounded his companion while they were hunting for squirrels in the woods in Yala province, said police Col. Wichai Jaengsakul.

Still, residents of Narathiwat, Yala and Pattani provinces flocked to local markets Friday to shop for fresh and dried fruit including date palm to be consumed at dusk after the first day of fasting ends.

In Malaysia, where nearly two-thirds of the population is Muslim, people began observing the holy month by heading to mosques Friday night on the eve of Ramadan's start, with special Quran-reading and prayer sessions to proceed nightly throughout the month.

The start of Ramadan is often quiet in Malaysia, with excitement peaking in the final week, when people buy new clothes, food and other supplies to celebrate the end of the holy month.

Many hotels in Kuala Lumpur have begun advertising promotional dinners featuring roast lamb, savory curries and sumptuous cakes for more affluent Muslims to break their fast, while in numerous neighborhoods, entrepreneurs will set up evening stalls for customers to purchase cooked rice, meat and vegetables to bring home for their families.

Taliban kill 10 in attack on rival in Pakistan

PESHAWAR, Pakistan (AP)—A Taliban suicide car bomber attacked a rival militant commander's compound in northwestern Pakistan on Saturday, killing at least 10 people, as heavily armed assailants killed eight members of the coast guard in the southwest, officials said.

There has been significant infighting over turf and leadership positions within the Pakistani Taliban, an umbrella organization set up in 2007 to represent roughly 40 insurgent groups, many of whom are waging a bloody campaign against the government.

The compound that was attacked in Spin Dal village in the Orakzai tribal area was owned by militant commander Mullah Nabi, said senior tribal police official Amjad Khan. Nabi was once a close ally to a prominent Pakistani Taliban commander from Orakzai, Mullah Toofan, but the two are now fierce rivals.

Nabi was at the compound when the attack occurred but was not hurt, said Khan. The 10 killed included five children, he said.

The Pakistani Taliban claimed responsibility for the attack, with spokesman Ahsanullah Ahsan saying it was carried out because Nabi had turned against the Taliban. Ahsan spoke by telephone from an undisclosed location.

The Pakistani army has waged multiple offensives against the Pakistani Taliban in Orakzai and other parts of the tribal region, but the militants continue to stage frequent attacks against military and civilian targets.

The coast guard camp that was attacked Saturday was in the port city of Gwadar in Baluchistan province, said local coast guard official Hidayat Ullah. The assault initially killed six members of the force and wounded two others, but they later died of their wounds, said Ullah.

No group has claimed responsibility for the attack. Baluchistan is home to both Islamist militants and nationalists who have been waging a decades-long insurgency against the government for greater autonomy and a larger share of the province's natural resources.

A roadside bomb also exploded near a passenger bus elsewhere in the northwest Saturday, killing three people, said police officer Zahir Shah. The attack in Upper Dir in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province also wounded seven people, Shah added.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Floods kill 2 in Philippines, halt traffic

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Torrential monsoon rains have inundated large areas of the northern Philippines, leaving at least two people dead and six missing and halting traffic in parts of the capital for many hours. The weather bureau says the rains early Saturday were aggravated by a passing tropical depression. A civil defense report says the body of a man was recovered from floodwaters in Laguna province south of Manila and another person drowned in a swollen creek in northern La Union province. Many roads in the sprawling capital area were underwater for hours, halting traffic. Suburban Pasay City Mayor Antonio Calixto says some areas near Manila's airport had neck-deep floods, forcing vehicles to take other routes.

NATO: 3 service members killed in Afghanistan

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—NATO says insurgent attacks have killed three of its service members in eastern Afghanistan. A roadside bomb killed two Sunday morning, while another service member died in a separate attack on Saturday. It provided no further details on the incidents or the nationalities of the troops. The deaths bring the number of foreign forces killed in July to 30, for a total of 245 so far this year. NATO also said that it killed a number of insurgents with an airstrike in the Mohammad Agha district of eastern Logar province. It did not provide further details. Fighting in eastern Afghanistan has been raging since spring as NATO tries to clear the area of insurgents

World

Syria revolt reaches Aleppo; rebels target cities

By ZEINA KARAM
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BEIRUT (AP)—Riding a wave of momentum, Syrian rebels made a run on Aleppo Saturday in some of the fiercest fighting seen in the country's largest city, which has been a key bastion of support for President Bashar Assad over the course of the 17-month-old uprising.

The rebels also took over a third border crossing—and the second one along Syria's frontier with Iraq—another sign the regime's tight grip on the country is wobbling.

■■■

JERUSALEM (AP)—A senior Israeli defense official says Syria remains in control of its chemical weapons arsenals, even as the Israeli military considers a possible attack meant to prevent those arms and advanced Syrian missiles from falling into militant hands.

Defense official Amos Gilad says Israel is afraid Syria's large chemical stocks could be seized by Lebanese militants, Al-Qaida-affiliated radicals or other unspecified "irresponsible elements" operating in Syria.

Gilad told Army Radio on Sunday, "Right now, they (the Syrians) are protecting these arsenals as best as they can."

■■■

The fighting in Aleppo comes on the heels of intense clashes in the capital, Damascus, as rebel forces target the pillars of regime power in their attempts to usher in what they hope will be the end of Assad's rule.

"There were huge explosions and the gunfire didn't stop for several hours," Aleppo-based activist Mohammad Saeed told The Associated Press via Skype. "The uprising has finally reached Aleppo."

The city has remained largely loyal to Assad and been spared the kind of daily bloodshed that has plagued other areas.

But Saeed said dozens of fighters from the rag-tag Free Syrian Army entered Aleppo—a commercial hub—from the countryside and were fighting regime troops from inside.

It was the first sustained fighting in the city center, focused on the Salaheddine district, although there have been protests in Aleppo and violence on the outskirts.

The rebels have put the regime on the defensive after a week of battles in the capital, Damascus, including a bombing that struck at the heart of the regime, killing four high-level government officials. The coming days will be crucial to determining whether the regime can recover from the blows, which have punctured the sense that Assad's hold on the country is impenetrable.

Rebels also took over the Syrian side of the border crossing at the Iraqi town of Rabiya, 520 kilometers (320 miles) northwest of Baghdad, according to Atheel al-Nujaifi, the governor of Iraq's Ninevah province.

Iraqi officials said rebels tore up and shot at posters of Assad but did not face any resistance from regime authorities who surrendered the sprawling, dusty border crossing peacefully. Iraqi officials quickly barricaded the crossing and ordered additional troops to secure the area.

Rebels also seized the Syrian side of the border crossing at the Iraqi border town of Qaim on Thursday. Rebels also attacked a remote Syrian military post near the border on Thursday, killing 21 soldiers, and overran a border checkpoint with Turkey last week.

French Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius warned Assad to prepare to leave.

"Bashar Assad's regime is condemned by his own people, who show great courage," Fabius said. "It's time to prepare for the transition and the day after."

He also encouraged the opposition—which is fractious and beset by infighting—to unite.

"It's time for the opposition to get started on taking control of the country," he said. "We want the rapid formation of an interim government that will be representative of the diversity of Syrian society."

Damascus and Aleppo are both home to elites who have benefited from close ties to Assad's regime, as well as merchant classes and minority groups who worry their status will suffer if Assad falls.

But for months, rebels have been gaining strength in poorer towns and cities in the Aleppo countryside, gaining footholds near the Turkish border.

Anger has been building inside Aleppo at the government's deadly crackdown on the uprising and in recent months, huge anti-government demonstrations have broken out, particularly among students at Aleppo University.

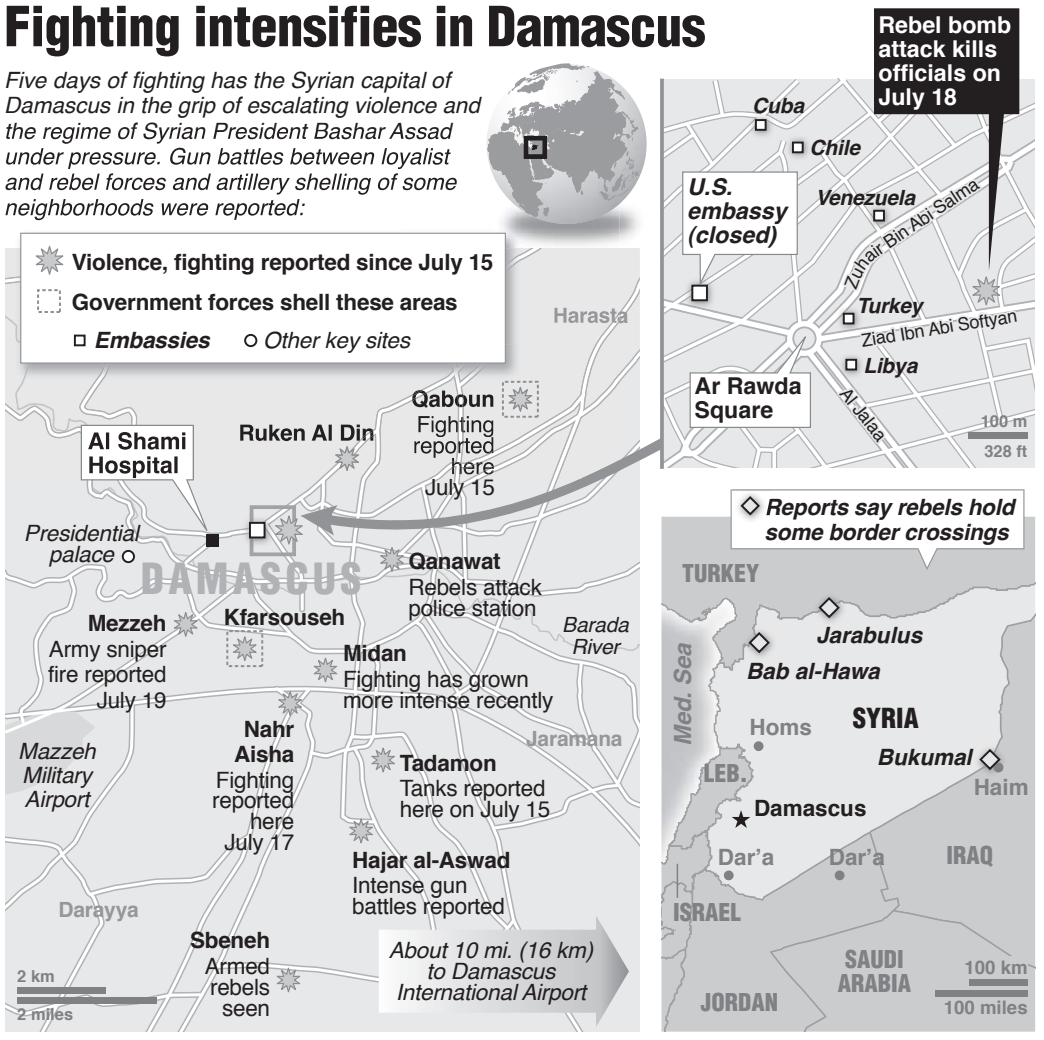
In May, Syrian forces stormed student dormitories during an anti-government protest at the university, firing tear gas and bullets in an hours-long siege that killed four students and forced the closure of the state-run school.

An amateur video posted online by activists showed Aleppo residents walking with bags of belongings or packing into cars and driving away.

Another video showed protesters pounding an iron bust of Assad's late father, Hafez, with rocks in an attempt to break it. The videos could not be independently verified.

Activists and residents reported relative calm in Damascus on Saturday, although sporadic gunfire and explosions could be heard.

Two residents who did not want to be identified for safety reasons said by telephone that the fighting peaked between 1 a.m. and 3 a.m. local time.



Source: McClatchy Washington Bureau, AP, New York Times, Syria Tracker

Graphic: Robert Dorrell © 2012 MCT

In German circumcision debate, 'us vs them' fears

By DAVID RISING
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BERLIN (AP)—Rabbi David Goldberg had performed about 25 ritual circumcisions this year before a regional court ruled in June that the practice amounted to causing criminal bodily harm.

Despite the decision, he expects to perform the same number in second half of the year.

"I haven't changed anything," said Goldberg, one of Germany's few mohels—a person trained in the Jewish ritual of circumcision.

Though the Cologne court's decision has raised fears among Muslims and Jews that circumcising their children could get them into legal trouble, it has had little practical effect in reducing religious circumcisions—especially since the government has weighed in with assurances to both communities that their practices will be respected.

But both Jews and Muslims say that a more lasting effect may be "us vs. them" tensions that have raised an invisible barrier between secular Germans and religious minorities.

"It is no surprise that the Catholics and the Protestants have stood behind the Muslim community in this case and denounced the verdict," said Aiman Mazyek, the chairman of Germany's Central Council of Muslims. "In my opinion this is no picture of tolerance or religious freedom from a modern civilization. It is a step backward."

Jews are religiously required to circumcise baby boys on the 8th day after birth in a ceremony seen as their entrance into a covenant with God. Muslims also usually perform the procedure early in a boy's life, though sometimes wait until later in childhood.

In the Cologne decision, announced June 26, the court said circumcising young boys on religious grounds amounts to bodily harm even if parents consent to the procedure. The charge is punishable by anything from a fine to up to five years in prison.

AP

In this photo provided by the Furer family Rabbi Abraham Dauss, left, and Moishe Furer, a rabbinical student in Berlin holding his son Elchanan attend a circumcision ceremony in Berlin, Germany, Friday, June 29, 2012.

The ruling came in the case of the circumcision of a 4-year-old Muslim boy that led to medical complications.

The boy was circumcised at the request of his parents. He developed complications two days later and was rushed to the hospital. Prosecutors charged the doctor, who was acquitted when a Cologne court found that he had performed the procedure properly, and that he had the parents' permission to carry out the circumcision.

But prosecutors appealed, and the higher Cologne court ruled that in a case of circumcision for non-medical reasons, the welfare of the child outweighed the religious rights of the parents. The acquittal of the doctor, however, was upheld because the court said the law had been unclear.

Though not precedent setting for other courts in Germany, the ruling prompted an outcry from Jewish and Muslim groups across Europe, while in Israel the German ambassador was invited to explain the decision to the Knesset.

Germany's main Catholic and Protestant organizations also condemned the ruling as an attack on religious freedom. The president of the German Medical Association said the ruling could even endanger children, by forcing circumcisions to be performed under possibly unsanitary conditions outside of hospitals.

Caught in the middle were people like Moishe Furer, a rabbinical student in Berlin whose son Elchanan was born five days before the decision was announced.

The native of Moldova said his own parents had to bribe a doctor when he was born to certify that his own circumcision was for medical purposes because performing the procedure for religious reasons was not allowed in the former Soviet Union. When he first heard of the Cologne decision, he said he thought the court ruling was being misinterpreted.

"We thought it was a mistake, that it could not be true that something like circumcision could be forbidden in Germany," he said.

But because of the religious significance, he said, they had the circumcision done, despite fears that other courts might follow the ruling even if it did not set a precedent.

"It was important enough to risk," he said.

The most disturbing part of the ruling for Jews and Muslims is the court's contention that being circumcised "runs contrary to the interest of the child to later choose his religious affiliation," said Josh Spinner, an American rabbi who grew up in Hamilton, Canada, and has been in Berlin for more than a decade.

Focus

'I don't want my friends to die on my birthday'

By PAULINE ARRILLAGA
AP NATIONAL WRITER

AP
Emma Goos, 19, hugs her mother, Judy Goos, outside Gateway High School where witnesses were brought for questioning Friday, July 20, 2012, in Aurora, Colo. Emma was in the third row of the theater of the new Batman movie when the shooter entered. She helped apply pressure to a man's head who was injured.

AURORA, Colo. (AP)—For the six friends, the movie was to be the kickoff to a day of celebration. Megan Saunders was turning 20, and her best buds were home from college for the summer. She had one particular birthday wish: that they all hit the midnight premiere of the new Batman flick, "The Dark Knight Rises."

Inside theater No. 9 of the Century 16 complex in Aurora, the atmosphere couldn't have been more festive. Little boys had donned their Batman masks while others were clad in full-on Caped Crusader costume. A woman near the front was dressed as Catwoman. When the lights dimmed at 12:05 a.m., a cheer went up as the previews began, followed by an even bigger shout when Bruce Wayne appeared on the big screen.

Megan and her friends sat side-by-side in the fourth row from the front, engrossed in a movie they'd long anticipated, about a superhero facing down evil.

Then an emergency exit door burst open, and suddenly evil was no longer the stuff of comic books and summer blockbusters.

The man stood only feet from them, clad in black, wearing goggles and a gas mask, holding a hissing canister in one hand, a gun in the other. For an instant Megan thought maybe he was a SWAT team member. Next to her, 19-year-olds Emma Goos and Hannah Judson thought it was all just part of the show, some extra theatrics to help set the mood.

It would take only seconds for these childhood friends to realize the horror that was about to unfold.

The man in black lobbed the canister into the crowd. As smoke spewed into the darkness, he fired one shot at the ceiling. Then, he started up the aisle.

Megan and her friends hit the floor as people all around them began screaming. "Get down!" "There's a gun!" "Get out!"

In the dark, crouched in front of her seat, her boyfriend trying to shield her, Megan heard the boom of the gun. Again and again and again. She stole one quick look at the audience, and saw people falling over their seats. A thought slowly began to creep into her mind: "I don't want my friends to die on my birthday."

■ ■ ■ ■

Aurora lies just 10 miles east of downtown Denver, a diverse city of more than 300,000 known for world-class medical centers and its residents' affinity for sports and the outdoors. Like any big city, it has its share of crime but had, as recently as 2011, been ranked by Forbes Magazine as the ninth-safest city in America.

Megan Saunders, Emma Goos and Hannah Judson knew it only as home.

They grew up together, Megan and Emma only three doors apart in a neighborhood just down the street from the shopping mall that houses the Century 16 movie complex. At night, from Emma's front yard, you could see the red, purple and green neon lights of the theater glowing at night.

Movies were their thing. The group would often go to midnight premieres, even after they graduated high school and went their separate ways to college—Megan to study hospitality; Emma, philosophy, math and literature; and Hannah, an aspiring music teacher, the romance language of Italian.

Together again in Aurora for summer break, it was a given that the Batman premiere would be on their must-see list. Megan was a big fan, and the premiere just happened to coincide with her birthday. So the plan was hatched: Catch the midnight show, then grab some sleep and breakfast before continuing the birthday party with a day of ice-block "sledding" in the park.

Around 11:30 p.m., six of them headed to the theater: The three girls along with friends Omar Esparza, Terrell Wallin and Megan's boyfriend of 2 1/2 years, Isaiah Bow. Emma sneaked in the candy bars. Hannah got her usual concession stand favorite, a double scoop of mint chip and fudge ice-cream, and they entered an already packed theater, seeing other friends amid the crowd. With most of the seats up top filled, the group headed toward the front and found six seats together on the righthand side of the theater, four rows from the exit door.

"It was a completely conventional night," Emma would later recall, "up until 15 minutes into the show."

On the screen, the Catwoman character played by actress Anne Hathaway had just been introduced. She had stolen some pearls.

In the theater, alleged gunman James Eagan Holmes had just kicked open the exit door. He was making his way up the aisle, shooting person after person.

■ ■ ■ ■

Two rows in front of Megan and her friends, 22-year-old Jennifer Seeger, studying to become a firefighter-paramedic, felt bullet cases falling on her head, burning her skin. Behind her people moaned and pleaded, "Please don't shoot me."

In the upper section of the theater, 41-year-old Marcus Weaver, a father of two, heard children crying for their mothers and parents frantically crying, "Where are you at?" All the while the gunshots kept coming. "It was just, `POW. POW,'" said Weaver. "All you saw was the light (of the gunflash) between the smoke. Then `POW. POW.'"

From the ground in row 4, Megan and Emma heard a round of 20 to 25 shots. Then, for an instant—maybe 15 seconds—the firing stopped and an eery silence fell over the theater.

They figured the gunman was reloading. This might be their chance.

Emma stood up to run but slipped on butter that had spilled from a popcorn bucket. Still, she knew, "If I paused for one second, he would see me and shoot me." She scrambled back up and, with her head tucked down, made for the theater lobby. When she finally looked back, her friends were nowhere to be found.

Megan's boyfriend, Isaiah, had already jumped over the seats and made his escape through the emergency exit door, figuring Megan and their friends were close behind. But before Megan could get out, she saw the gunman turn to look at Isaiah. She hit the floor once more, as the shooting began all over again.

She knew she had no choice. It was either run and risk being seen, or stay and risk being slaughtered. Screaming at the strangers beside her to "Go! Go!" Megan made for the very same door the suspect had first entered, praying Isaiah would be on the other side waiting for her. Instead, he had disappeared.

They had gone to the movies—all of them, as we all do—for a night of escape. To forget, for just a moment, the troubles of life. Instead, in the chaos that followed, Emma and Megan, and so many others, saw things and did things that they may never forget.

Alone in the parking lot in front of the theater, Emma came across a man begging for help. His face was covered in blood. He kept asking her: "Is there a hole in my head?" She saw tissue protruding from the skin above his eye, but told him as calmly as she could manage: "You're OK. It's OK." She urged him to take off his shirt and apply pressure to the wound. Then she got on her cell phone and called her mother and stepfather.

Megan's boyfriend, Isaiah, had run back into the building in a desperate search for his girlfriend. But he was disoriented and wound up in the wrong screening room. So he shouted to the movie-goers there to get out.

As Megan made her way back to the front of the theater, casualties covered in blood stumbled out of the building. Police were starting to arrive, turning the parking lot into a makeshift triage center. Soon ambulances and gurneys piled with bodies were everywhere. Bloodied T-shirts that became makeshift tourniquets littered the ground.

Somehow, in the midst of it all, Megan found Emma. Then, from a distance, she spotted Isaiah shouting into the crowd. She ran until she could jump into his arms. Her friend Terrell had stayed close behind her. The four of them were together again, and soon they found Emma's parents, who had rushed to the scene.

But where was Omar? Where was Hannah?

Emma couldn't help but think that her friends were likely dead. What were the chances of all of them making it out of there alive? Then her stepfather's cell phone rang.

Hannah and Omar had managed to escape through the lobby and ran, barefoot, all the way back to Emma's house.

"They're OK," her stepfather told the group. All they could do was scream, this time not in terror but relief.

■ ■ ■ ■

The comparisons came quickly between the massacre in Aurora and one 13 years ago a mere 18 miles away—at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colo. When her daughter first called, Emma's mother, Judy Goos, immediately thought, "This is another Dylan Klebold. Someone who's angry at the world," said Goos, referring to one of the two students who killed 12 classmates and a teacher and wounded 26 others before killing themselves in what had been the deadliest shooting in Colorado history.

In Friday morning's rampage in Aurora, 12 people died and 58 others were injured. The suspect, 24-year-old Holmes, was arrested outside the theater and is scheduled to appear in court on Monday.

For so many here and across the nation, these types of tragedies have become all too common now, the images of victims covered in blood too horribly familiar. They have been far too frequent these past years, events so horrific they are recalled with only a word or two: Columbine. Virginia Tech. Fort Hood. Tucson. And, now, Aurora.

There will be, as there always are, questions about society's role, about our gun laws, about how it all might have been prevented—and if, or when, it could happen again.

Said Aurora resident Mark Rosenberg, who stood outside of the theater Friday afternoon with his son, Nathan: "It's an unstable world. You never know what's going to happen next." His 13-year-old had gone to the midnight Batman movie at another theater, and said: "It's sad that we can't go into the theaters and feel safe."

Megan and Emma and Hannah and their friends, for now, take a somewhat different view.

They saw the worst of mankind in that theater Friday morning. But they also saw the best of it: People giving strangers CPR. Moviegoers, even some who had been wounded, refusing to flee the theater without helping their neighbors out, too.

They saw horror, but also heroes.

"There are bad apples in every batch," said Hannah. "But for the most part, I've seen nothing but support. People just trying to help people. There were people that were running and then strangers came and picked them up and took them in their car. There was so much unity in our community that I can't think that the bad is so prevalent in our world. I just can't because of one incident. And if it is ... then it's a scary place to live in."

As Emma said later: "You have to see good when you're this lucky. Six people? What are the chances of us being this close (to dying) and being OK?"

When night finally fell, the six friends found themselves at Megan's house, ending the day the way it had begun. Together.

As some peeled off and went home, Hannah and Isaiah stayed behind to do what they'd always intended: commemorate Megan's birthday. They ate muffins instead of cake and she opened one of her gifts: a movie, "Muppet Treasure Island." They sat together, watching cartoons and celebrating, in their own quiet way, life.

Pauline Arrillaga, a Phoenix-based national writer for The Associated Press, can be reached at features@ap.org.

Health & Fitness

CDC: Whooping cough rising at alarming rate in US

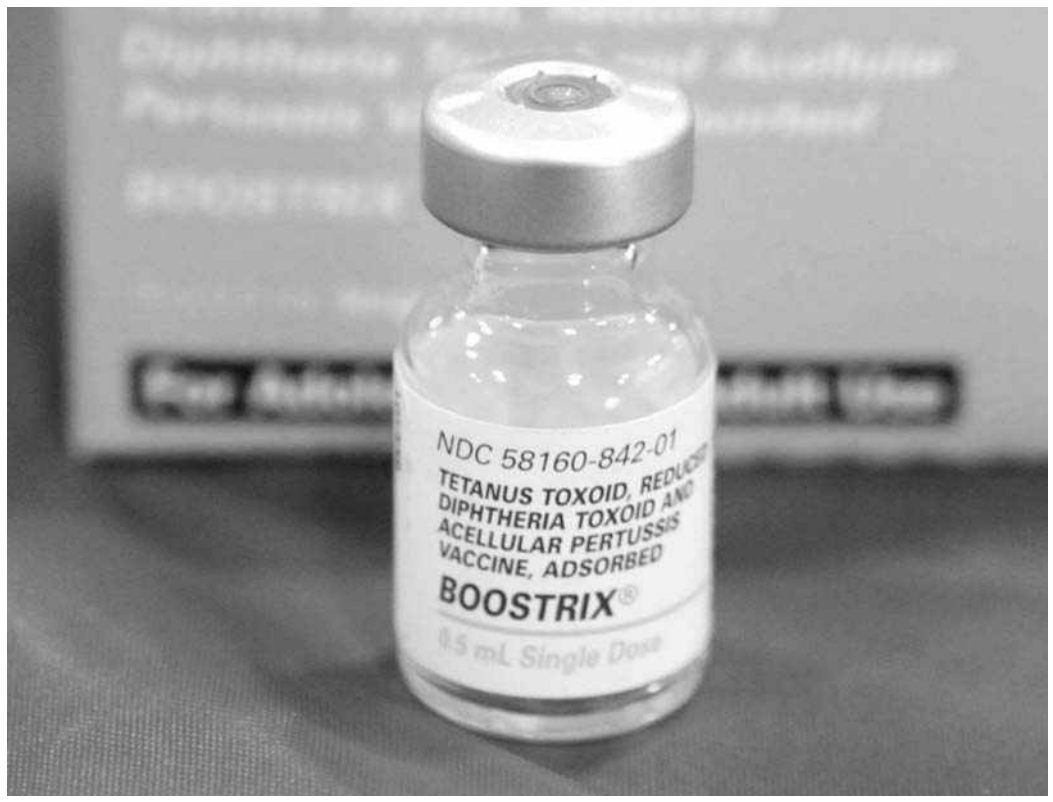
By MIKE STOBBE
AP MEDICAL WRITER

ATLANTA (AP)—The U.S. appears headed for its worst year for whooping cough in more than five decades, with the number of cases rising at an epidemic rate that experts say may reflect a problem with the effectiveness of the vaccine.

Nearly 18,000 cases have been reported so far—more than twice the number seen at this point last year, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said Thursday. At this pace, the number for the entire year will be the highest since 1959, when 40,000 illnesses were reported.

Nine children have died, and health officials called on adults—especially pregnant women and those who spend time around children—to get a booster shot as soon as possible.

"My biggest concern is for the babies. They're the ones who get hit the hardest," said Mary Selecky, chief of the health department in Washington, one of the states with the biggest outbreaks. Washington and Wisconsin have reported more than 3,000 cases each, and high numbers have been seen in a number of other states, including New York, Minnesota and Arizona.



AP

This Monday, Sept. 19, 2011 file photo shows an empty bottle of Tetanus, Diphthera and Pertussis, (whooping cough) vaccine at Inderkum High School in Sacramento, Calif.

Whooping cough has generally been increasing for years, but this year's spike is startling. Health investigators are trying to figure out what's going on, and theories include better detection and reporting of cases, some sort of evolution in the bacteria that cause the illness, or shortcomings in the vaccine.

The vaccine that had been given to young children for decades was replaced in the late 1990s following concerns about rashes, fevers and other side effects. While the new version is considered safer, it is possible it isn't as effective long term, said Dr. Anne Schuchat, who oversees the CDC's immunization and respiratory disease programs.

Some parents in California and other states have rebelled against vaccinations and gotten their children exempted from rules that require them to get their shots to enroll in school. Washington state has one of the highest exemption rates in the nation. But the CDC said that does not appear to be a major factor in the outbreak, since most of the youngsters who got sick had been vaccinated.

Whooping cough, or pertussis, is a highly contagious disease that can strike people of any age but is most dangerous to children. Its name comes from the sound children make as they gasp for breath.

It used to be a common threat, with hundreds of thousands of cases annually. Cases gradually dropped after a vaccine was introduced in the 1940s, and the disease came to be thought of as a relic of another age. For about 25 years, fewer than 5,000 cases were reported annually in the U.S. The numbers started to climb again in the 1990s.

How to protect kids from whooping cough outbreaks

By MIKE STOBBE
AP MEDICAL WRITER

ATLANTA (AP)—Whooping cough was once a terrible menace to U.S. children, with hundreds of thousands of cases reported annually. Then a vaccine drove cases down, and the illness became thought of as rare and even antiquated.

But it never totally disappeared, and now there's been a spike in cases.

With nearly 18,000 cases so far this year, health officials say this is shaping up to be the worst national epidemic in more than 50 years for the highly contagious disease.

Worrisome numbers have been reported in more than a dozen states.

What's a parent to do?

Some advice:

FIRST STEP: Make sure your child is up-to-date on vaccination against whooping cough, or pertussis. There are five doses, with the first shot at age 2 months and the last between 4 and 6 years. A booster shot is recommended around 11 or 12. It's part of routine childhood shots that also protect against diphtheria and tetanus.

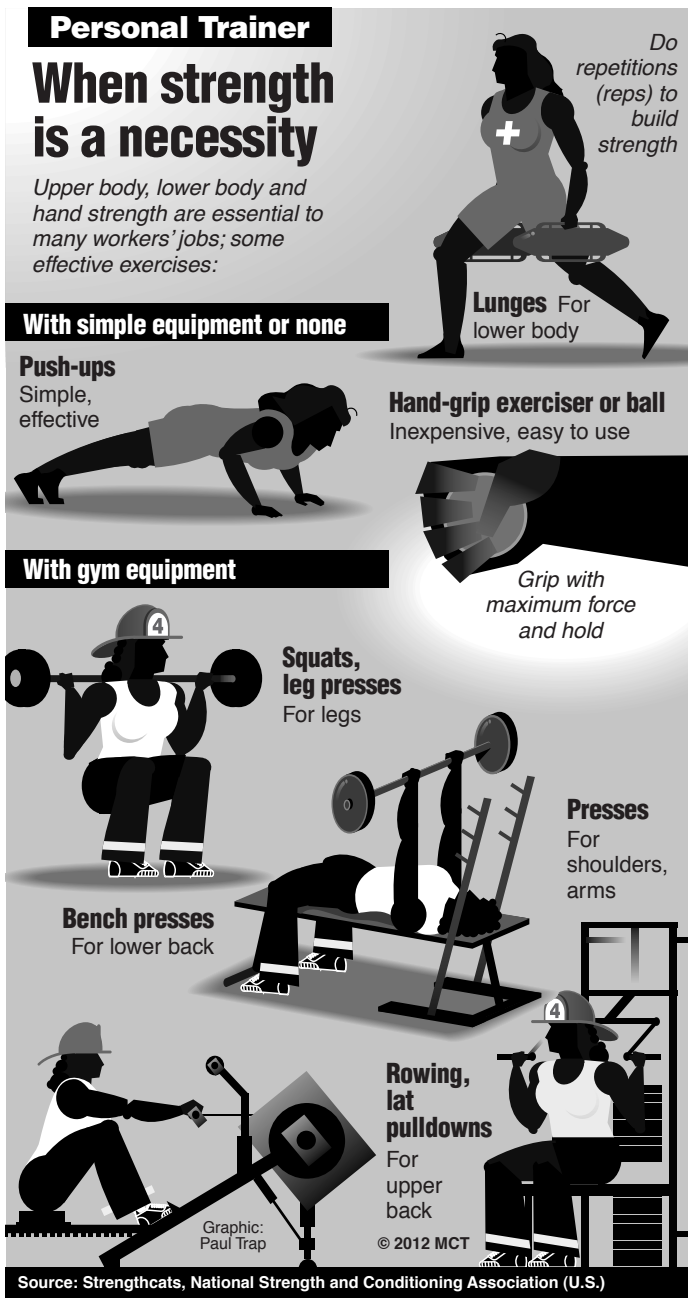
PROTECT YOURSELF: Adults who are around kids should get a whooping cough booster shot so that they don't spread it to young children, who are the most vulnerable to whooping cough. Nine young children have died so far this year. The booster for teens and adults, approved in 2005, was combined with the tetanus booster that adults are supposed to get every 10 years or so.

VACCINE NOT PERFECT: No vaccine is 100 percent effective, and its ability to fend off infections wanes as years pass. But even diminished vaccine protection is better than nothing, and usually people who are vaccinated have milder cases. In this current epidemic, experts are investigating whether the childhood shots and the booster offer less lasting protection than previously thought.

WATCH FOR SYMPTOMS: The illness typically starts with cold-like symptoms that can include a runny nose, congestion, low-grade fever and a mild cough. Infants may have a pause in breathing, called apnea. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention advises parents to see a doctor if they or their children develop prolonged or severe coughing fits, vomiting and exhaustion.

The name comes from the sound children make as they gasp for breath. Here's what it sounds like: http://tinyurl.com/btskus

The disease is spread through coughing or sneezing. Whooping cough is treated with antibiotics, the earlier the better.


Personal Trainer
When strength is a necessity
Upper body, lower body and hand strength are essential to many workers' jobs; some effective exercises:
Do repetitions (reps) to build strength
Lunges For lower body
With simple equipment or none
Push-ups
Simple, effective
Hand-grip exerciser or ball
Inexpensive, easy to use
Grip with maximum force and hold
With gym equipment
Squats, leg presses
For legs
Presses
For shoulders, arms
Bench presses
For lower back
Rowing, lat pulldowns
For upper back
Graphic: Paul Trap
© 2012 MCT
Source: Strengthcats, National Strength and Conditioning Association (U.S.)

Binge drinking increases risk of cognitive decline, studies find

By JANICE LLOYD
USA TODAY

Drinking and binge drinking among older people increase the risk of cognitive decline and memory loss, according to two studies presented Wednesday at the Alzheimer's Association International Conference 2012 in Vancouver, Canada.

Adults ages 65 and older who reported binge drinking at least twice a month were 21/2 times more likely to suffer cognitive and memory declines than similar-aged adults who don't binge-drink. In this study, binge drinking is defined as four or more drinks on one occasion.

"It's not just how much you drink but the pattern of your drinking," says lead author Iain Lang of the University of Exeter in England. "Older people need to be aware, if they do binge-drink, of the risks and they should change their behaviors."

Binge drinking appears to be a big problem in the United States. The findings follow a study in January by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reporting that one in six adults in the U.S. are binge drinkers and those in the 65-plus age group binge-drink more often than any other age group. In that survey, binge drinking is defined as men having five or more drinks within a short period of time and women having four or more drinks.

Those most likely to binge-drink have incomes of more than $75,000 a year, according to the CDC.

The CDC recommends moderation, if you do drink. It describes moderate drinking as no more than one drink a day for women and no more than two drinks a day for men.

Lang's eight-year study on binge drinking followed 5,075 U.S. adults ages 65 and older and assessed cognitive function and memory in a telephone survey. Among the findings: 4.3 percent of men and 0.5 percent of women reported drinking heavily twice a month or more; another 8.3 percent of men and 1.5 percent of women reported doing so once a month or more.

Earlier studies have noted drinking alcohol in moderation, especially red wine, might decrease the risk of cardiovascular disease, dementia and premature death.

"The many dangers of misuse of alcohol, and some of the possible benefits, have been widely reported, and there needs to be clarification by the scientific community," says Bill Thies, chief scientific and medical officer for the Alzheimer's Association. "Certainly no one should start drinking in order to reduce Alzheimer's risk."

In another study reported at the conference, researchers found moderate alcohol consumption had no protective properties in the mental functions of older women. The study followed 1,306 women ages 65 and older for 20 years. Among the highlights:

■ Women who changed from not drinking to drinking over the course of the study had a 200 percent increased risk of cognitive impairment compared with non-drinkers.

■ Women who reported drinking more in the past than at the beginning of the study were at a 30 percent increased risk of developing cognitive impairment compared with non-drinkers.

■ Moderate drinkers in the late phrase of the study were roughly 60 percent more likely to develop cognitive impairment compared with non-drinkers.

"Alcohol use in late life many not be beneficial in older women," says lead author Tina Hoang of the Veterans Health Research Institute in San Francisco. "It may be that the brains of older individuals are more vulnerable to the effects of alcohol."

Life & Style

Warner Bros. struggles with Colorado shooting

By JAKE COYLE
AP ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—The movie industry grappled Friday with the deadly Colorado shooting at a midnight screening of "The Dark Knight Rises," as one of the most anticipated films in years became enmeshed with a massacre.

The film's director, Christopher Nolan, speaking for the cast and crew, expressed their "profound sorrow at the senseless tragedy," lamenting the violence brought into the cinema, where moviegoers had gathered for what was supposed to be a celebratory opening night.

"I believe movies are one of the great American art forms and the shared experience of watching a story unfold on screen is an important and joyful pastime," said Nolan. "The movie theatre is my home, and the idea that someone would violate that innocent and hopeful place in such an unbearably savage way is devastating to me."

The shooting, which killed 12 and left nearly 60 injured in an Aurora, Colo., movie theater, reverberated through Hollywood and upended carefully laid plans for the global release of "The Dark Knight Rises." Warner Bros. quickly canceled a premiere planned for Paris and canceled press interviews in France.

Warner Bros. rushed to react to the tragedy, saying in a statement that it extended "our prayers and deepest sympathies to the victims, their loved ones and those affected by this tragedy." Dan Fellman, head of distribution for Warner Bros., said he had been up since 4 a.m. making calls.

"Everybody is very saddened by the event. We were obviously looking for a very happy occasion for us," Fellman said. "It's a difficult way to begin. We're just more concerned now with the well-being of those that were injured, of course."

Warner Bros. had no further comment on whether screenings might be canceled or precautions taken. The studio did take the unprecedented step of delaying its reporting of eagerly awaited weekend box office figures for "Dark Knight" from Sunday to Monday "out of respect for the victims and their families."

Warner Bros. also moved to pull trailers for its upcoming movie "Gangster Squad" from showings of "The Dark Knight Rises." The trailer of the film, which stars Sean Penn and Ryan Gosling in a ruthless war between '40s Los Angeles police and the mob, includes a scene of mobsters firing into a movie theater from behind the screen.

AP
Balloons are released Saturday, July 21, 2012, at a vigil at Gateway High School in Aurora, Colo., for AJ Boik, who was a student at the school and who was killed along with 11 others when a gunman opened fire in a movie theater.

A person familiar with what was shown at the Aurora theater said the trailer did not play there. The person did not want to be identified because the person was not authorized to speak on the matter.

Cinemark Holdings Inc., the chain that owns the theater where the shooting happened, said it was working closely with local law enforcement. "Our thoughts and prayers are with the victims, their families and loved ones, our employees, and the Aurora community," the company said.

Movie theaters around the country continued Friday showings of the film as planned, though some were stepping up security and conducting bag searches. New York police commissioner Raymond Kelly said the city was providing extra security in New York theaters playing "The Dark Knight Rises" "as a precaution against copycats and to raise the comfort levels among movie patrons."

In the wake of the shooting, "The Dark Knight Rises" and the earlier Batman films, with their dark themes and emphasis on terrorism, were sure to be heavily scrutinized. The practice of midnight screenings for eagerly anticipated blockbusters, too, could come into question.

Kelly said that the suspected gunman, James Holmes, had his hair painted red and identified himself to authorities saying he was the Joker. Heath Ledger played the Joker in the previous Batman installment, "The Dark Knight," although his hair was colored green. Ledger died in 2008 from a toxic combination of prescription drugs before the film was released.

"I don't know if James Holmes cared deeply about Batman," film critic Roger Ebert wrote in an op-ed for The New York Times. "I suspect he cared deeply about seeing himself on the news."

The National Association of Theatre Owners issued a statement offering their "hearts and prayers" to the victims. The association said, "Guest safety is, and will continue to be a priority for theater owners," adding that the group would work closely with law enforcement and review security procedures.

"We share the shock and sadness of everyone in the motion picture community at the news of this terrible event," said former Sen. Chris Dodd, chairman and CEO of the Motion Picture Association of America. "We extend our prayers and deepest sympathies to the victims, their loved ones and all those affected by this tragedy."

"The Dark Knight Rises" had expectations of being one of the biggest weekend openings ever. Its midnight screenings earned $30.6 million, Warner Bros. said Friday. That's the second-best midnight opening ever, behind $43.5 million for the "Harry Potter" finale. "The Dark Knight" earned a then-record $158.4 million in its first three days, including $18.5 million from midnight screenings.

The PG-13 film played in 3,825 theaters domestically in the midnight screenings, expanding to 4,404 cinemas nationwide Friday. Many showings on the weekend were sold out in advance.

Paul Dergarabedian, an analyst for Hollywood.com who specializes in box office, declined to speculate on an effect the tragedy might have on the film over the weekend, saying it was too soon to estimate. But some moviegoers were already rethinking their plans.

Christine Cooley, who works for the University of Florida at a campus facility near Tampa, Fla., said she and her 15-year-old daughter were stunned by the TV coverage of the shooting Friday morning.

"Her immediate reaction was `I'm never going to the movie theater again. Why should I go somewhere where I'm looking over my shoulder worrying that someone is going to come in and harm us when I can wait six months and watch it in the safety of my own home?'"

Cooley said she tried to explain to her daughter that it was an isolated incident, "but I see where she's coming from. Why put yourself in harm's way?"

Others were undeterred.

"Just seem like another day at the movies," said Jimmie Baker, 40, of Harlem, N.Y., at a theater in Times Square.

Andrew Bross, 22, of Livingston, N.J., returned Friday to watch "The Dark Knight Rises" for the second time in 12 hours.

"I go to the movies every week," he said. "I'm going to keep going. I'm not going to let it stop me one bit."

Damon Lindelof, the co-creator of "Lost," said he was going to see the film Friday night and suggested a modest tribute: a minute of silence as the end credit roll.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

†Bruce Thomas Johnson

April 01, 1940 – July 13, 2012

Funeral Services will be held on Thursday, July 26, 2012 at Nuestra Senora dela Paz Memorial Chapel, Beach Road, Garapan.

Viewing and Last Respects will be from 8:00am to 9:00am followed by Prayer Service at 9:15am.

Interment Service will take place at the CNMI Veterans Cemetery, Marpi, Saipan.

Thank You and Si Yu'us Ma'ase.

Hong E Johnson and E Zi Yan

Box office goes silent in wake of Colo. shooting

By JAKE COYLE
AP ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—In the aftermath of the Colorado shooting during a screening of "The Dark Knight Rises," Hollywood studios banded together to withhold box-office reporting through the weekend, while Warner Bros. frantically rushed to remove a movie trailer with now eerie relevance.

While the weekend is usually Hollywood's time to peddle its flashy offerings and tout its millions in box office, the second day of release for "The Dark Knight Rises" was anything but business as usual following the Aurora, Colo., shootings that killed 12 and wounded 58 at a Friday midnight showing of the new Batman film.

"Words cannot express the horror that I feel," Christian Bale, who stars as the caped crusader in the film, said in a statement. "I cannot begin to truly understand the pain and grief of the victims and their loved ones, but my heart goes out to them."

All of the major studios in Hollywood said Saturday they were joining "Dark Knight Rises" distributor Warner Bros. in withholding their box-office numbers for the weekend. Sony, Fox, Disney, Paramount, Universal and Lionsgate followed Warner Bros.' lead in forgoing the usual revenue report until Monday out of respect for the victims and their families.

Box-office tracking service Rentrak, too, said it would not report figures this weekend, leaving a weekly Hollywood tradition of boasting to go silent for awhile.

AP
Candles, flowers, and a Batman figure are shown at a memorial, Saturday, July 21, 2012, in Aurora, Colo.

"The Dark Knight Rises" is sure to be among the most lucrative movie openings. It was seen as a possible contender with the record $207.4 million brought in by "The Avengers," but that appears unlikely even though "The Dark Knight Rises" earned $30.6 million from the Friday midnight screenings alone.

Hollywood trade publications Variety and Hollywood Reporter reported estimates of roughly $75 million to $77 million for the film on Friday, based on box-office insiders. That would put it on track for somewhere around $165 million for the weekend. Such a total would be the second-highest weekend opening ever, after "The Avengers."

Any projections, though, are bound to be rough approximations given the atypical circumstances. Many of Friday's tickets were pre-sold before the shooting. Moviegoers making their way to theaters also faced increased security and, in some places, bag checks. AMC Theaters, the country's second-largest movie chain, said it would not allow costumed fans or face-covered masks into its theaters.

Warner Bros., a subsidiary of Time Warner, also had an unfortunately-timed trailer to contend with. A promo for its upcoming film "Gangster Squad" had been attached to "The Dark Knight Rises." The trailer for the `40s period film, which stars Sean Penn and Ryan Gosling, features a climactic scene in which mobsters fire automatic weapons into a movie theater audience from behind the screen.

The studio immediately pulled the trailer from theaters Friday, but some theaters were still running it as late as Saturday evening. Moviegoers from Connecticut to California complained on social media when they saw the trailer before "The Dark Knight Rises."

College student Alex Isreal was among those who took to Twitter after seeing the trailer at an AMC theater in Danbury, Conn. Addressing the theater chain, she said the trailer was "shown to my horror."

A representative for Warner Bros. said the studio was working around the clock with exhibitors to pull the "Gangster Squad" trailer. While removal from theaters with digital projectors is quick and easy, cutting the trailer from 35 millimeter projections has proved more difficult.

The trailer appeared to be running in relatively few of the 4,404 theaters playing "The Dark Knight Rises." Warner Bros. expected it to be totally eliminated by the end of Saturday. The trailer did not run in the Colorado movie theater where the shooting took place.

After quickly canceling a Friday night premiere in Paris, the studio on Saturday also canceled the other remaining red-carpet extravaganzas in Mexico City and Tokyo.

Christopher Nolan, the movie's director earlier responded to the tragedy, expressing his sorrow for the victims and their families.

Said Nolan: "The movie theater is my home and the idea that someone would violate that innocent and hopeful place in such an unbearably savage way is devastating to me."

AP essay: Shootings shatter safe haven of cinema

By DAVID GERMAIN
AP MOVIE WRITER

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Director Christopher Nolan remarked ahead of "The Dark Knight Rises" debut that his villain is so fearsome that at times he's as hateful as someone carrying out such misdeeds for real.

Nolan's grand spectacle of violence and mayhem has been put into perspective for what it really is—a harmless thrill ride—after the real horror of the Colorado shootings that killed 12 and injured 58 at a screening of his Batman finale Friday.

Movie theaters are supposed to be shelters where we can live out our dreams—and yes, even our nightmares, with stories of disaster, apocalypse, terror and villainy unspooling to the crunch of popcorn and the slurp of oversized sodas.

Some in the audience at a midnight show of "The Dark Knight Rises" in Aurora, Colo., thought at first that it was part of the show when a man in a gas mask burst into view, lobbed a gas canister, and then opened fire. They quickly realized the danger was no longer on screen but right in their midst.

"I believe movies are one of the great American art forms and the shared experience of watching a story unfold on screen is an important and joyful pastime," filmmaker Nolan said in a statement about the shootings. "The movie theater is my home, and the idea that someone would violate that innocent and hopeful place in such an unbearably savage way is devastating to me."

The millions seeing the blockbuster-in-the-making over opening weekend no doubt share Nolan's sentiment that a safe haven has been breached. Movie theaters have been the scenes of scattered violence, but despite the carnage audiences witness on screen in big action films, viewers go in expecting nothing worse than maybe getting stuck next to people talking or texting during the show.

"That corner of our lives has kind of been blown open," said Stephen Bates of Long Beach, Calif., who came in a Batman T-shirt to an IMAX cinema in Los Angeles to catch a "Dark Knight Rises" matinee Friday. "The movie theater is a special place."

Formidable security is common at other venues where masses of people congregate in tight spaces—sports events, concerts, nightclubs. At the movies, the big concern generally is policing R-rated films to make sure those under 17 are not sneaking in without an adult.

Theaters ramped up security after the shootings and are reviewing what else they need to do to make cinemas safer.

"We live in a violent world, unfortunately, and I think we've been very fortunate over the years that movie theaters have not been targeted," said Patrick Corcoran, spokesman for the National Association of Theatre Owners. "This is the first incident like this that we've ever had. Any other bits of violence that have occurred in movie theaters have usually been between patrons."

Among recent incidents: a man shot a noisy moviegoer in the arm in 2008 at a screening of "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button" in Philadelphia; in Eugene, Ore., in 2009, a man shot himself to death during a showing of "Watchmen"; a teenager required six stitches after he was stabbed in the stomach in a quarrel with a security guard at a Long Island cinema after a screening of "My Bloody Valentine" in 2009; and last year, a man was shot to death in a theater in Latvia after an argument with another audience member watching "Black Swan."

Police in Aurora, said 24-year-old James Holmes opened fire in a theater shortly after midnight, when "The Dark Knight Rises" debuted in about 4,000 cinemas nationwide. The film is the finale in director Nolan's trilogy, which began with 2005's "Batman Begins" and continued with 2008's "The Dark Knight," a film whose domestic opening weekend of $158.4 million was a record at the time.

"The Dark Knight" won a posthumous Academy Award for Heath Ledger as the Joker and elevated the superhero genre to new critical heights with its mix of action and weighty themes. "The Dark Knight Rises" continues the epic sweep as Batman (Christian Bale) battles a merciless brute named Bane (Tom Hardy) who lays siege to Gotham City, including attacks on a packed football arena and a stock exchange.

The appearance of the gunman at the Aurora theater must have been truly disorienting for the audience watching the masked Bane carry out his slaughter. Wearing a gas mask, a ballistic helmet and vest and carrying a semi-automatic rifle, a shotgun and two pistols, Holmes appeared silhouetted against the movie screen and began shooting.

After "The Dark Knight," Ledger's cackling, anarchic Joker was a tough act to follow, and Nolan went in the opposite direction with Bane, a bad guy with chillingly precise plans to make the innocent of Gotham City suffer. Nolan said Hardy, who co-starred in the filmmaker's 2010 sci-fi hit "Inception," completely embraced the detached menace of Bane.

"There are moments in this film where I just find him absolutely hateful and terrifying in a way that movie antagonists very rarely are," Nolan said in a July 7 interview. "They're usually very much more sold out to the attractive qualities of villainy, and there are moments in here where you hate him the way you'd hate someone in real life if they were doing these things."

Yet in the safe environment of a theater, with the action happening to fictional figures on screen, fans can revel in such violence, watch the world as they know it destroyed in such movies as "The Day After Tomorrow" or "2012," and see supernatural creatures spreading terror in vampire and zombie flicks. Afterward, fans head home unscathed, marveling at what they've seen and unconsciously, maybe, having worked through some primal issues.

It's a cathartic experience that dates back to the earliest storytelling, said Tom Pollard, professor of social sciences at National University in San Jose, Calif., and author of "Hollywood 9/11: Superheroes, Supervillains, and Super Disasters," a study of big-screen action and violence since the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

"You go back to Sophocles with Oedipus wandering around with his eyes gouged out by himself because he's been having sex with his mother. `Hamlet,' where the whole stage is awash with blood and suicide," Pollard said. "It's a part of our culture. It does express these monsters from the id, the dark side of our psychology. These films symbolize deep fears, and it can be a kind of therapy to see them."

Fans seeing "The Dark Knight Rises" around the country expressed horror over the shootings, but many said they felt it was an isolated incident that would not keep them from going to the movies.

Still, the violence was bound to weigh on their minds as a terrible incursion on what is meant to be escapist fun, the simple joy of watching a whole other world unfold before your eyes without consequence to the audience.

"You go into this movie, you watch it, you get engrossed into this story and you don't think about the outside world for two, three hours," said Samantha Hines, who saw the movie in Boston. "So it is jarring to have such a harsh reality just slammed upon everybody like that."

Usher's stepson dies 2 weeks after lake accident

ATLANTA (AP)—The stepson of the Grammy award-winning pop star Usher has died, two weeks after the child was critically injured in a boating accident.

Willie A. Watkins funeral home in Atlanta confirmed Saturday it was handling funeral arrangements for 11-year-old Kirk Glover. Glover was a son of Usher's ex-wife Tameka Foster.

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution reports that Kile died Saturday morning at an Atlanta area hospital.

The boy was run over July 6 by a personal watercraft on Lake Lanier, according to the Georgia Department of Natural Resources. He had been hospitalized with a major brain injury. Lake Lanier is about 40 miles northeast of Atlanta.

Authorities said the accident continues under investigation.

Before the accident, Usher, whose full name is Usher Raymond, had been in a legal battle with his ex-wife arising from a custody fight over their two sons.

AP

Hip-hop artist Usher Raymond takes the witness stand in court in a legal battle with his ex-wife in a custody fight involving their two sons in this May 22, 2012 file photo taken in Atlanta.

Condolences flooded social media sites late Saturday, The Atlanta Journal-Constitution reported. It said those who sent tweets of condolences included Justin Bieber, singer Toni Braxton and singer Eric Benet, among others.

Usher, long one of the top-selling singers and songwriters, has won numerous Grammy awards. He gained initial acclaim in the late 90s with albums such as "My Way" and went on to release the 10-million-plus selling 2004 album "Confessions" that firmly established him as a superstar, among several others including "Raymond v. Raymond" in 2010.

Bassist for 3 Doors Down arrested for DUI in Miss.

D'IBERVILLE, Miss. (AP)—3 Doors Down bassist Todd Harrell has been released on $1,000 bond after being arrested on a DUI-related charge following an accident in southern Mississippi.

Police Chief Wayne Payne says in a news release that 40-year-old Todd Harrell was pulled over after 7 a.m. Thursday in D'Iberville after failing to stop at an intersection and colliding with a pickup truck.

Payne says Harrell was charged with DUI and for not wearing a seatbelt. Harrell was released on bond after an appearance before a judge.

Payne says Harrell consented to a blood test and a toxicology report is pending.

Harrell, former guitarist Matt Roberts and lead singer Brad Arnold formed the band 3 Doors Down in Escatawpa, Miss., in 1996. Roberts left the band in May with health problems.

Warner Bros. cancels more world Batman premieres

MEXICO CITY (AP)—Warner Bros. Pictures says it has canceled appearances by the cast and filmmakers of the movie "The Dark Knight Rises" in Mexico and Japan after a shooter killed 12 people and injured at least 50 Friday in a Colorado theater during a midnight premiere of the newest Batman movie.

The studio says actors Christian Bale, Anne Hathaway and Joseph Gordon Levitt will no longer hold press or red carpet events on Monday at Mexico City's National Auditorium.

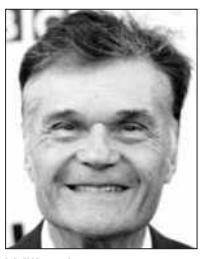
Premiere events in Paris were also canceled Friday.

The studio said it would continue with screenings for special guests and promotion winners so as not to disappoint fans.

In Finland, public broadcaster YLE television said movie distributor FS-Film's entire Internet campaign for "The Dark Knight Rises" has temporarily been shut down and that TV spots have been withdrawn. It was not clear Saturday how long the suspension would last, but it may only be this weekend. The film opened Friday in Finland, according to movie database IMDb.

PBS says it had to move fast after Willard arrest

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)—PBS President Paula Kerger said Saturday the decision to remove Fred Willard as narrator of the new public TV series "Market Warriors" had to be made quickly.



Willard

Willard's lewd conduct arrest last week prompted concern that the "unfortunate circumstances" would distract from the show that debuted last week, Kerger said.

PBS has high hopes for the new show, which is intended as a companion to its highest-rated series, "Antiques Roadshow."

Within 24 hours of his arrest, Willard was replaced by Mark Walberg, host of "Antiques Roadshow." Walberg's new voiceover was done in time for the second episode airing Monday, Kerger told a meeting of the Television Critics Association.

Willard's firing took place as PBS once again confronts efforts by Republican lawmakers in Washington to cut funding for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, which provides 15 percent of public TV's budget.

Best known as the announcer in the film "Best in Show," Willard was arrested Wednesday night for investigation of committing a lewd act. He was taken into custody by police doing a routine check at a Hollywood adult theater.

By midday Thursday, the 72-year-old actor was fired from "Market Warriors," produced by Boston public television station WGBH. He provided narration and was not seen on-camera.

The Los Angeles City Attorney's office determined Friday that Willard's case was eligible for a diversion program that will keep him from being formally charged with lewd conduct if he completes the required courses. Willard will pay $380 for the program.

Willard said in a video posted Thursday by celebrity website TMZ that his arrest was a misunderstanding and denied wrongdoing.

Willard was nominated four times for Emmys for guest roles on TV's "Modern Family" and "Everybody Loves Raymond." In Pixar's 2008 hit "WALL-E," he voiced the character of Shelby Forthright, the CEO of a ubiquitous big-box chain called Buy'n'Large.

In addition to "Best in Show," Willard has also appeared in other Christopher Guest mockumentary films, including "This is Spinal Tap" and "Waiting for Guffman."

PBS chief decries efforts to cut federal funding

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)—PBS President Paula Kerger said Saturday she's disappointed public TV's federal funding again is under attack by lawmakers.

The move is ironic, she said, given the impressive number of Emmy Award nominations earned last week by PBS programs, including the popular drama "Downton Abbey." PBS received 58 nods, second only to HBO and CBS.

Public television gets 15 percent of its money from the federally funded Corporation for Public Broadcasting, with the rest largely contributed by viewers, Kerger told a meeting of the Television Critics Association.

But some stations would lose more than half their money if funds are cut, and a number of them will be forced to "go dark," she said.

A loss of federal dollars "would eliminate public broadcasting in areas I know it's tremendously used," Kerger said. She cited a small Cookeville, Tenn., station that has done "an extraordinary job at being an archive for the culture in that community."

U.S. House Republicans have unveiled legislation aimed at cutting off federal funding for public TV television and National Public Radio. Both have been targets before, with Republicans saying PBS could get along just fine without taxpayer help.

Kerger said it's "disappointing to me when you look at the value the American public places" on PBS.

While she and other PBS executives try to be eloquent defenders of public TV, she said, it is ultimately the audience that can help protect it by making their support for PBS known to Congress.

Rep. Norm Dicks of Washington, a top Democrat on the Appropriations Committee, said last week the "extremely partisan proposal" stands little chance of being brought up on the House floor and will be disregarded by the Senate and President Barack Obama.

Wife sours on cafe worker who's sweet on her husband

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: My husband, "Vic," and I used to work at the same company. While I worked there I noticed that one of the women who worked in the building cafe seemed to have a crush on him.

I left work to be a stay-at-home mom. I trust my husband and know he would never do anything with this woman. However, I'm uncomfortable because he talks about her often, and she gives him free food just about every day and jokes around with him. If I have lunch with Vic there, she won't look at me. She and I used to talk often.

I haven't said anything to him about how I feel. Should I worry about this? Should I ask him to be careful around her?

ALLERGIC TO WHAT SHE'S SERVING

DEAR ALLERGIC: Mention to your husband that you have noticed a change in the server's reaction to you, if you wish—but I don't think you have anything to be worried about. She probably does have a crush on Vic, and the reason she can't look at you may be she feels guilty for flirting with him, or your presence is a reminder that he is unavailable, which spoils her fantasy.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I'm the mother of three sons. Over the years, I would sometimes play rough and wrestle with them, all in good fun. Now that they're almost all grown and out of the house, I find myself getting carried away with this type of play with my spouse. He was on the wrestling team in school, so invariably I always lose. But he knows how to play without hurting me.

Is there something wrong with me for wanting to play so rough at times? He seems to enjoy it, but there have been times when I've walked away bruised if I let him go too far. Otherwise, I'm an ordinary female who you'd never guess would love to wrestle. How many other women out there do this?

FEELING WEIRD IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR FEELING WEIRD: I don't have the figures, but some women like to wrestle as a form of foreplay. However, because it is leaving you with bruises, you and your spouse may be carrying the wrestling a bit too far. If it's not foreplay, but some form of competition, perhaps you should consider taking up another sport with him where you'll have a chance of winning sometimes rather than always being the loser.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: How does one politely but firmly turn down door-to-door salespeople? How should I respond to salespeople who become rude once I tell them I'm not interested? Many of them become hostile once they realize I can't be persuaded to buy what they're selling.

NO THANK YOU IN LONG BEACH, CALIF.

DEAR NO THANK YOU: If this is happening regularly, the first thing to do is post a sign next to your door that says "No Soliciting." When someone you don't know knocks or rings your bell, don't answer it. If you somehow get trapped into hearing the sales pitch, when the person pauses for breath say firmly, "Not interested," and close your door. Remember, the person is not trying to make a friend of you; the person WANTS something. You do not have to tolerate rudeness.

■■■

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

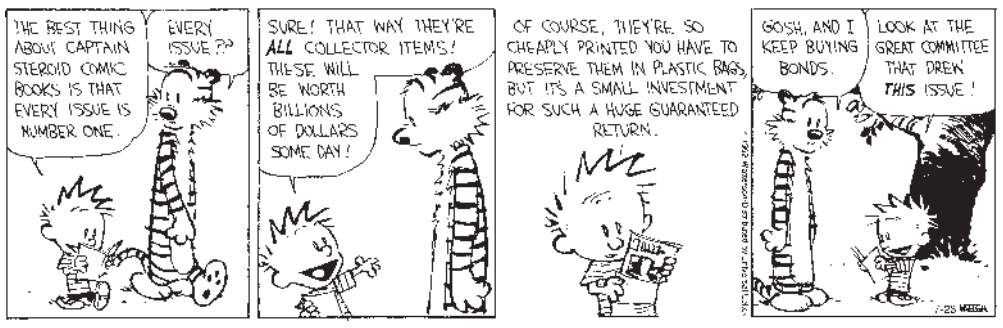
■■■

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable—and most frequently requested—poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

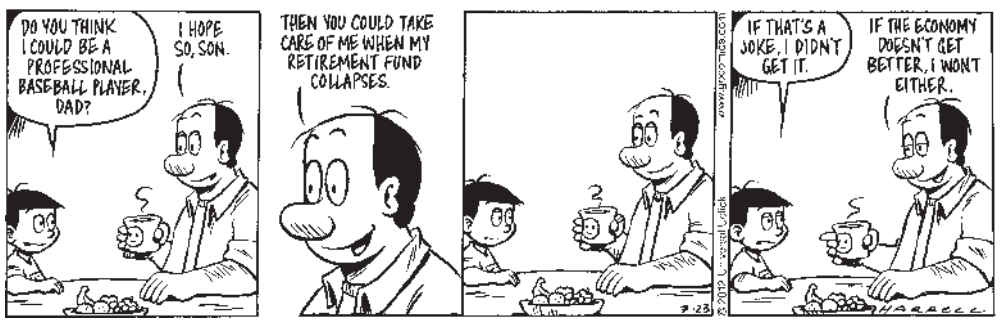

THE BEST THING ABOUT CAPTAIN STEROID COMIC BOOKS IS THAT EVERY ISSUE IS NUMBER ONE.
EVERY ISSUE??
SURE! THAT WAY THEY'RE ALL COLLECTOR ITEMS! THESE WILL BE WORTH BILLIONS OF DOLLARS SOME DAY!
OF COURSE, THEY'RE SO CHEAPLY PRINTED YOU HAVE TO PRESERVE THEM IN PLASTIC BAGS, BUT IT'S A SMALL INVESTMENT FOR SUCH A HUGE GUARANTEED RETURN.
GOSH, AND I KEEP BUYING BONDS.
LOOK AT THE GREAT COMMITTEE THAT DREW THIS ISSUE!

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


DO YOU THINK I COULD BE A PROFESSIONAL BASEBALL PLAYER, DAD?
I HOPE SO, SON.
THEN YOU COULD TAKE CARE OF ME WHEN MY RETIREMENT FUND COLLAPSES.
IF THAT'S A JOKE, I DIDN'T GET IT.
IF THE ECONOMY DOESN'T GET BETTER, I WON'T EITHER.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

SO THE GUY WHO FREED THE SLAVES WASN'T UNCLE SAM?
OF COURSE NOT! BOY! DON'T YOU KNOW ANYTHING?
IT WAS THAT OTHER GUY WITH A BEARD! YOU KNOW... LINCOLN!!
THAT GUY WHO KILLED ALL THOSE VAMPIRES?
EXACTLY!!

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

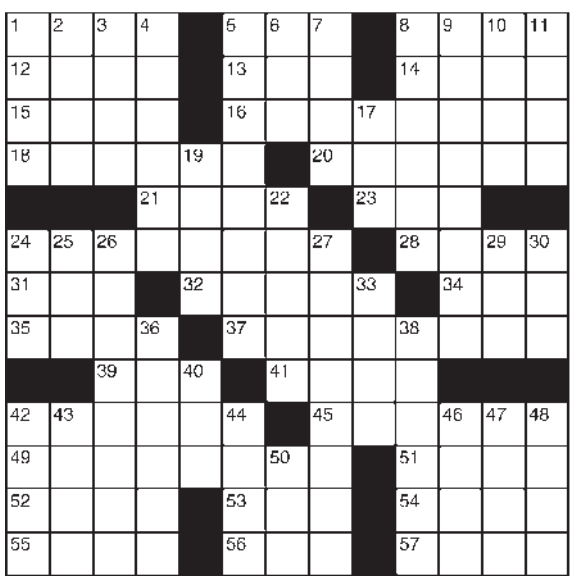
ACROSS
1 Nut's partner
5 Encountered
8 "The lady — protest too much"
12 Great Lake
13 Raw mineral
14 Franc replacement
15 On the briny
16 Legally requires
18 Fluffy dessert
20 Butter-and-sugar candy
21 Billions of years
23 Always, in verse
24 Flies south for the winter, e.g.
28 Standard
31 Bakery offering
32 Mila of "That '70s Show"
34 Neither mate
35 Slugs
37 Captains of industry
39 Mouse's cousin
41 Norse thunder god
42 Tolerates
45 Cheap
49 Serves as a go-between
51 — Minor
52 Andy's pal of old radio
53 Have bills
54 Hammer's target
55 Dexterous
56 Tiny
57 Dilbert's workplace

DOWN
1 Shaft of light
2 Approximately
3 Stead
4 Quick preview
5 Impetus
6 Historic time
7 Camp shelter
8 Be way too loud for
9 Leading
10 Genealogy chart
11 Firetruck need
17 Female deer
19 Drench
22 French legislature
24 Speedometer stat
25 Midafternoon, in a way
26 Discard
27 Take a vacation tour
29 Fish eggs
30 Wifely address
33 Winter forecast
36 Cruel person
38 In the vicinity
40 Earl Grey, e.g.
42 "Diary of — Housewife"
43 Everlys' hit, "Let It —"
44 Pack away
46 Scottish hillside
47 Egyptian fertility goddess
48 Chat
50 Ram's mate

Solution time: 24 mins.

■	B	E	A	D	S	■	Y	A	C	H	T	S
H	F	I	M	F	T	■	F	M	P	I	R	F
M	A	L	I	C	E	■	T	O	A	T	E	E
M	U	S	S	■	E	M	I	R	■	I	F	S
■	■	■	S	A	R	I	■	E	A	T	■	■
A	D	E	■	K	I	S	S	■	L	O	N	E
I	N	S	T	A	N	T	C	O	F	F	E	E
D	A	T	A	■	G	R	I	N	■	F	O	R
■	■	■	I	I	I	■	A	S	T	A	■	■
A	T	M	■	M	I	L	S	■	L	E	O	N
G	R	A	S	P	S	■	O	N	L	I	N	E
R	E	T	E	L	L	■	R	C	A	R	E	D
A	Y	E	A	Y	E	■	S	T	Y	E	S	■

Saturday's answer 7-23



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Daniel Radcliffe, 23; Marlon Wayans, 40; Philip Seymour Hoffman, 45; Woody Harrelson, 51.

Happy Birthday: Learn from mistakes and take care of personal business before someone asks for something you've neglected to do. You will feel liberated and ready to try new endeavors if you don't have so much on your to-do list. Changes to your personal life can be expected. Accept the inevitable. Your numbers are 8, 17, 22, 24, 36, 45, 48.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Prepare for what's to come. Sitting at home and missing out on an event because you don't feel up to it will be your loss. Seize the moment and embrace whatever is being offered. Partnerships, progress and prosperity are all attainable. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): You may have found a bargain, but before you make a purchase, do your research and check your motives. The vendor may be misleading you, or you may be trying to impress someone with what you have. Focus on work, not pleasures. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Opt to wait when it comes to altering your surroundings or updating your image. You aren't likely to love the results you get if you rush into something without doing enough research. Gullibility will leave you in a vulnerable position. ✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Spend time with family or your lover. Remembering the past will help you make wiser choices. Decisions should be based on what works for you personally, even if that means altering other aspects of your life. Don't defer; voice your opinion. ✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Everything will depend on what you do and how well you do it. Being a team player will allow you to win favors and support. Alterations at home will stabilize your personal life. Someone from your past will help you now. Love is highlighted. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Too much said and not enough done will lead to complaints. Emotions will be difficult to control. You are best to do whatever chores you have so you can move on to bigger and better opportunities. Time management will be essential to advance. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Now is your time to explore new avenues and make changes that will bring you one step closer to your dreams, hopes and wishes. Reunite with someone from your past who you feel has something to offer you now. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Don't be too quick to make changes at home that may be costly. Use common sense, or you may end up stuck with something that doesn't fit your lifestyle or your plans for the future. Good fortune comes from helping yourself. ✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Listen carefully and size up a situation before you retaliate. It'll be best to let your actions be your voice. Take care of whatever responsibilities you've taken on before someone makes you look bad. ✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COPYRIGHT 2007 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Don't make promises you cannot keep. Someone will try to coerce you into doing something that doesn't really suit your skills. Contain your temper and don't vent your frustration on loved ones or anyone who can affect your future. ✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): This is a good day to sign contracts, formulate deals or move forward with a self-improvement project that will make your life better. Property deals or making a move will be beneficial. Romance will enhance your love life. ✪✪✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): A partnership may terminate if you don't compromise or at least listen to complaints. Weigh the pros and cons of your current situation to discover what you must abandon in order to do what suits you best. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are detailed, versatile and sophisticated. You have an entrepreneurial attitude.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	7		3		6		9	
8				4				7
5	1						2	4
4			8		3			2
	3			2			5	
9			6		5			3
1	5						3	9
3				9				6
	2		4		8		7	

Difficulty Level ★ 7/23

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's SUDOKU Answer

9	2	6	7	8	4	5	1	3
3	5	7	1	2	9	8	4	6
1	8	4	6	5	3	7	9	2
4	7	8	2	6	1	9	3	5
2	3	1	9	7	5	6	8	4
5	6	9	3	4	8	1	2	7
6	4	3	8	1	7	2	5	9
7	1	5	4	9	2	3	6	8
8	9	2	5	3	6	4	7	1

Difficulty level ★★★★ 7/21

©2010 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

THE SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE **Solution: 10 letters**

E	A	R	R	S	P	O	M	E	M	B	E	R	S	S
F	N	U	E	E	C	O	N	C	R	E	T	E	Y	N
S	O	T	S	S	D	I	E	E	C	N	A	D	O	V
T	Y	R	E	T	T	A	P	E	R	T	N	Z	P	E
U	R	N	E	R	R	A	N	M	S	E	T	Z	E	N
D	U	I	O	C	T	A	U	N	Y	U	F	A	R	U
I	S	O	A	H	O	A	L	R	O	L	O	J	A	E
O	F	W	A	T	P	U	I	I	A	L	O	H	I	S
S	S	L	I	O	H	M	R	N	A	N	O	N	E	R
T	L	L	D	M	U	L	Y	T	M	O	T	C	D	O
R	E	I	L	S	M	M	O	S	U	E	O	S	L	T
S	U	L	I	E	O	I	H	N	R	N	N	M	R	I
M	I	C	L	O	H	N	N	I	D	G	N	T	O	S
R	O	B	R	A	H	S	O	G	G	C	R	E	W	I
E	G	D	I	R	B	R	E	R	E	H	P	S	L	V

© 2012 Universal Uclick www.wonderwore.com Join us on Facebook 7/23

Australia, Ballet, Bridge, Colonnade, Concrete, Crew, Dance, Entertainment, Forecourt, Hall, Harbor, High, House, Interior, Jazz, Members, Music, Olympics, Opera, Podium, Restaurants, Roofs, Room, Seats, Second, Shells, Sphere, Studio, Swimming, Sydney, Symphony, Tiles, Tour, Triathlon, Tunnel, UNESCO, Utzon, Venues, Visitors, World

Last Saturday's Answer: Together

To order THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 24, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35 or 36 send $5.25 each (US funds only) to Universal Uclick, PO Box 8000, Dept. WW, Lincolnshire, IL 60069 or call toll-free 1-800-591-6960. Order online at www.puzzles.com. Add $4 for shipping and handling. Allow 4-6 weeks. Offer valid in the U.S. only. Void where prohibited.

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Ocean View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. $600/mo. Call 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Sunset View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. $550. Call 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Lower Navy Hill Apts. Newly renovated bldg., 3BR & 2BTH. Rooms w/ A/C & fully furnished. Back-up generator. Free Wi-Fi, EPA Solar Water Heater. Laundry area. Nightime security. $450/mo. Call 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

FOR RENT

Two Storey House
3 Bedroom / 2 Bath /
1 Closet Room
Free Cable / Internet /
Water w/ heater
Nice View Overlooking
Managaha & Tinian
Located at Gualo Rai
$ 1,500 /per month
Please call:
483-3201 / 233-1228

Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties.com. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

WANTED TO BUY

Need cash fast??? We want to buy your OnePass miles or Skymiles!!! Call 888-2205.

WHATZIT Solution:
Teetotal

REAL ESTATE RENTALS

- **OLEAI BEACH HOUSE:** 3-bedroom, 2-bathroom house. With good parking and back up generator. Fenced yard. Asking: $850.00/mo.
- **ANAKS CONDOMINIUM:** 2 units available. 2-bedroom, 1 ½-bathroom. Ocean view. Asking: $850.00/mo. each.
- **SAN JOSE:** 4-bedroom, 2-bathroom home. Great location near Dolphin Wholesale and San Jose Mart. Good condition with fenced yard. Asking: $750.00/mo.

Alexander Realty
Alexander Building, Beach Road San Jose, Saipan MP 96950
For inquiries please contact Alexander Realty at:
234-5117 or e-mail: roy.alexander@saipan.com
Website: www.realtysaipan.com

Kanoa Resort Saipan

P.O Box 500369 Saipan MP 96950 • Tel # (670) 234-6601 Fax # (670) 234-8007

(1) ELECTRICIAN

Qualifications: Minimum of 5 years work experience and training. High school graduate or equivalent. Able to service, repair, calibrate, regulate, fine-tune or test machines, devices and equipment that operate primarily on electrical or electronic principles. Must to work in a flexible way that allows for changes in assignments and priorities depending upon identified needs of the department.

Interested applicants may email resume to joe_ada@saipan-grandhotel.com. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

Kanoa Resort , is located next to Saipan World Resort Beach Road , Susupe , Saipan , and is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Subscribe to the CNMI's First Daily Newspaper
Call 235-NEWS

Saipan Tribune
Over 100 food stamp vouchers on hold
Businesses slam 'excessive' $500 fire re-inspection, $500 permit fees
Opinion
Even despots don't live forever
The flagrance of war
Focus
More US Catholics take complaints to church court
Campus Life
KagHS JROTC does well in drill competiti
GCA's January forensic winners
Overdrive
Mustang Boss 302
a thrill to drive, but lacks the extras
Life&Style
Davis, Dujardin win lead honors at SAG awards
Mary Tyler Moore honored for lifetime achievement
Pastimes
Calvin and Hobbes
Garfield
Adam@Home
The Duplex
SUDOKU
Sports
Rollers eyeing two trips to PH in 201
'King of Aces' on island through January
SRCR welcomed nine new members in 2011

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$27
• 5-Liner	$24	$39
• 3-Liner with picture	$24	$42
• 5-Liner with picture	$36	$57

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
- All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

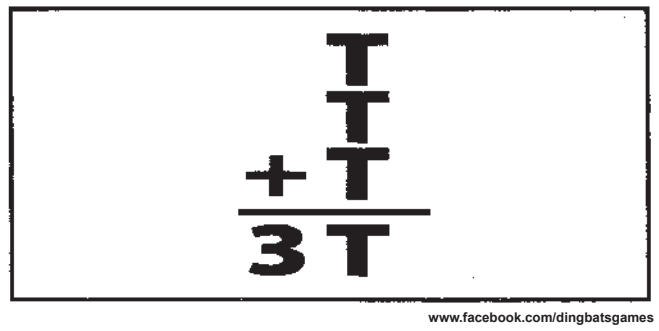
Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames

Find today's solution in classified section

Cards tie 76-year-old majors record in doubles

ST. LOUIS (AP)—The Cardinals ts tied a 76-year-old major-league record by hitting seven doubles in a single inning to rout Chicago, 12-0.

Rafael Furcal's go-ahead single in the seventh turned out to be a mere appetizer as the Cardinals scored 12 times to match an 86-year-old franchise record for runs in an inning. St. Louis totaled 10 hits with multiple hits by three players including pinch-hitter Allen Craig, who doubled twice with an RBI.

The Cardinals tied the major record for doubles in an inning by the Boston Bees against St. Louis in 1936.

They also tied the franchise record for runs in an inning set in 1926 against the Phillies.

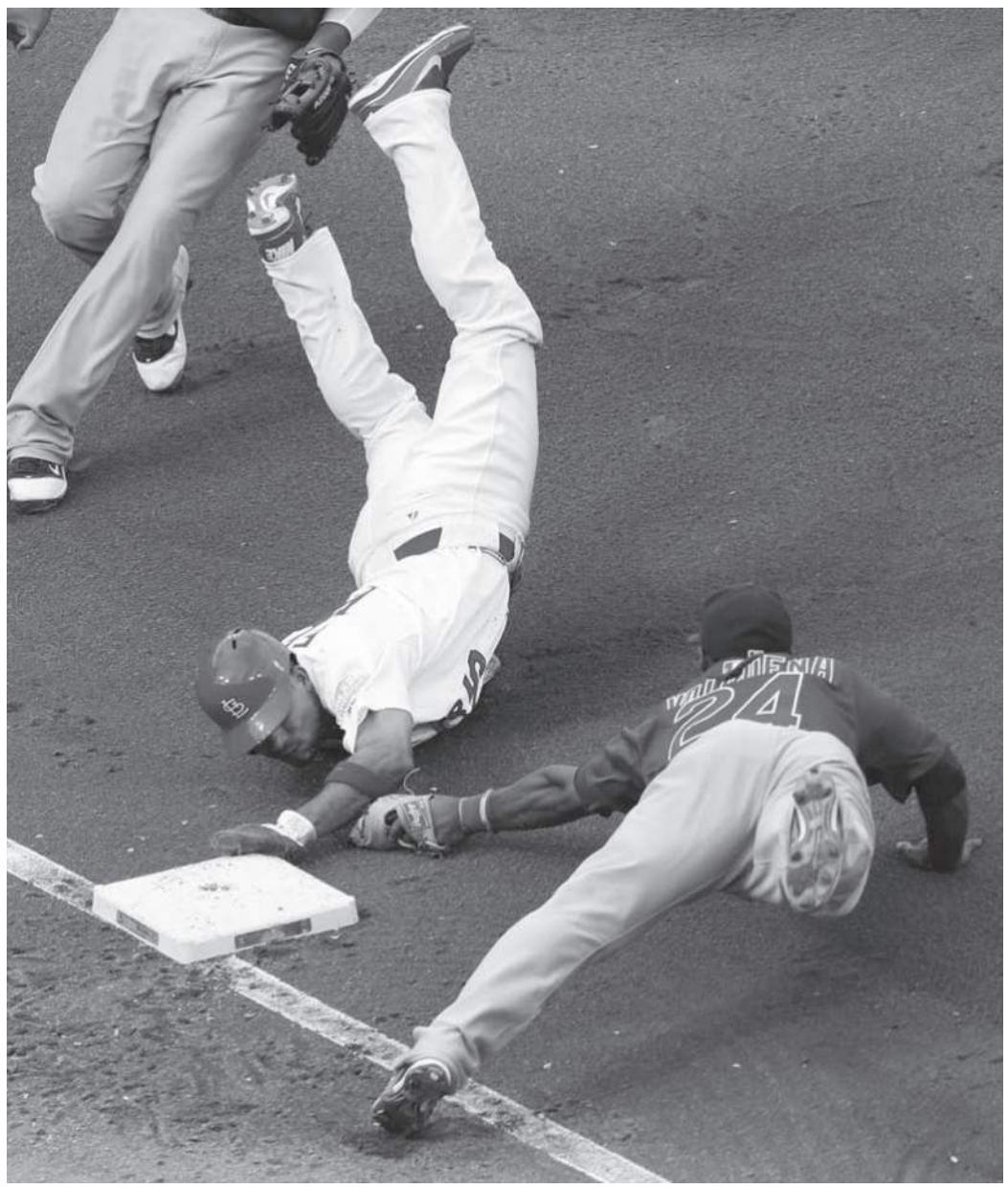
"You look at their lineup, nothing that extreme but that's a tough lineup to get through the switch hitters and quality hitters they've got," manager Dale Sveum said.

Germano got unlimited warmups in the fourth, an indication he was entering because of an injury or ejection, although the rule book also allows for an unspecified sudden emergency. Germano allowed a run in three-plus innings before the roof caved in on the Cubs.

James Russell gave up six runs on four hits in two-thirds of an inning. Manuel Corpas gave up four runs without getting an out, surrendering three doubles and a walk.

Previously, the Cubs hadn't allowed more than six runs in a single inning. The Cardinals topped their previous season best of eight runs April 27 against the Brewers.

Westbrook (8-8) escaped a bases-loaded jam in the first, falling behind 3-0 in the count against Geovany Soto before inducing a groundout. The sinkerballer permitted only two baserunners his last six innings, a leadoff single by David DeJesus in the third and a walk by Luis Valbuena in the fifth, and neither of them made it second.



AP

Cardinals' Rafael Furcal runs into a double-play as he tries to advance from first to third on a sacrifice bunt in third inning action during a game between the St. Louis Cardinals and the Chicago Cubs on Saturday, July 21, 2012, at Busch Stadium in St. Louis. Making the tag on the play is Chicago third baseman Luis Valbuena.

Nationals 5, Braves 2

In Washington, Bryce Harper returned from an ankle injury to single and score as the Nationals beat the Atlanta Braves 5-2 in the second game of Saturday's doubleheader which was split between the National League East's two top teams.

Atlanta had won the day game 4-0.

In the late game, Roger Bernadina had a tiebreaking hit in the seventh inning. He had five hits over the two games after coming in as a replacement for Harper.

Dodgers 8, Mets 5

In New York, Juan Uribe broke out of a long slump with a homer and four RBIs as Los Angeles beat staggering New York.

Uribe hit an early two-run double to end a 1-for-38 slump. He added a two-run homer in the ninth inning.

Dodgers starter Chris Capuano (10-5) pitched seven solid innings, striking out nine in his first victory in seven starts against his old team.

Reds 6, Brewers 2

In Cincinnati, Ryan Ludwick and Brandon Phillips hit two-run homers to lead Cincinnati over Milwaukee.

The NL Central leaders have won 10 of 12 overall, moving a season-high 14 games over .500.

Ludwick homered as part of a four-run first inning off Yovani Gallardo (8-7). Phillips homered in the eighth as the Reds beat the Brewers out of first place.

Pirates 5, Marlins 1

In Pittsburgh, A.J. Burnett remained undefeated at home by pitching 7 2-3 strong innings, leading Pittsburgh past Miami.

Burnett (11-3) allowed one run as he improved to 7-0 at home this season as the Pirates won a fourth straight and moved 13 games over .500 for the first time since 1992.

Garrett Jones had two RBIs and Alex Presley scored two runs for Pittsburgh, which has the majors' best home record at 31-14. Pittsburgh has won 20 of its past 24 at home.

Giants 8, Phillies 5, 10 innings

In Philadelphia, Gregor Blanco drove in the tiebreaking run with a drag bunt single in the 10th, giving San Francisco victory over Philadelphia.

Phillies closer Jonathan Papelbon (2-4) walked Melky Cabrera to start the 10th. He advanced to third on a single and scored on Blanco's perfect bunt down the first-base line.

The Giants are 7-1 since the All-Star break while the Phillies have lost seven straight home games.

Diamondbacks 12, Astros 3

In Phoenix, Jason Kubel became the seventh player in Diamondbacks' history to homer three times in a game and he drove in six runs as Arizona dominated Houston.

Kubel hit a two-run home run in the first inning and a three-run shot in the fourth off Astros starter Dallas Keuchel (1-2). He added a solo homer in the sixth.

With the first three-homer game of his career, Kubel leads the NL with 70 RBIs. He has 20 home runs.

Rockies 8, Padres 6, 12 innings

In San Diego, Jordan Pacheco drove in four runs, including the go-ahead score in the 12th inning, and Michael Cuddyer tied a career high with four hits as Colorado edged San Diego.

The victory snapped the Padres' four-game winning streak and ended the Rockies' three-game skid.

Cuddyer singled off Joe Thatcher (0-3), San Diego's sixth reliever, with one out in the 12th. He was sacrificed to second and came around to score on Pacheco's third hit of the game.

Rangers 9, Angels 2

In Oakland, Texas' Mike Napoli homered twice against his former team as the Rangers beat the Los Angeles Angels 9-2 on Saturday in a clash of the National League West division's two top teams.

Napoli, Yorvit Torrealba and Adrian Beltre homered during Texas' five-run second inning, chasing struggling Angels starter Ervin Santana (4-10) after just 13 batters.

Texas starter Yu Darvish (11-6) struck out 11 over seven strong innings.

Athletics 2, Yankees 1

In New York, Brandon Inge and Yoenis Cespedes homered as Oakland beat New York and notched a fourth straight win.

A's starter Jarrod Parker (7-4) allowed only an RBI single in the fourth while striking out five and walking only one, handing the Yankees their third straight loss in the series.

Cespedes crushed a tying homer later in the fourth and Inge hammered the first pitch of the eighth off Phil Hughes (9-8) for the go-ahead shot.

Tigers 7, White Sox 1

In Detroit, Rick Porcello pitched brilliantly into the ninth inning, steering Detroit to a win that lifted the Tigers above Chicago and into the outright lead in the AL Central.

Porcello (7-5) fell just short of his first complete game, departing after he allowed two hard-hit singles to start the ninth.

Porcello issued no walks, outdueling Chris Sale (11-3) in the Chicago starter's first loss since May 12. Sale allowed five runs in seven innings.

Orioles 3, Indians 1

In Cleveland, Jim Thome's two-run homer in the seventh inning led Baltimore to its fourth straight victory, downing Cleveland.

Thome, who passed Sammy Sosa for seventh place on the career list Friday, hit his 611th off Zach McAllister (4-2).

Orioles starter Chris Tillman (2-1) allowed only a leadoff homer in the first in 6 2-3 innings, and walked only one.

Blue Jays 7, Red Sox 3

In Boston, Edwin Encarnacion tied the game with a two-run homer in the sixth, then J.P. Arencibia gave Toronto the lead with a seventh-inning solo shot as the Blue Jays beat Boston.

Toronto starter Carlos Villanueva (5-0) allowed four hits over 6 1-3 innings to win his third consecutive start. He struck out five.

Boston's Aaron Cook (2-3) allowed five runs.

Mariners 2, Rays1

In St. Petersburg, Florida, Jason Vargas pitched scoreless into the seventh inning as Seattle edged Tampa Bay.

Vargas (10-7) gave up one run in six-plus innings as the Mariners stopped a nine-game losing streak against the Rays.

Michael Saunders had two RBIs for Seattle, while Tom Wilhelmsen, the fourth Mariners reliever, pitched the ninth for the save.

Royals 7, Twins 3

In Kansas City, Lorenzo Cain drove in three runs and Alex Gordon had three hits and scored two runs as Kansas City beat Minnesota.

Cain delivered run-producing singles in the first and fifth innings and he had an RBI double in the seventh. Cain's three RBIs matched a career high.

Royals starter Luis Mendoza (4-6) made his sixth quality start in seven appearances to collect the victory. He yielded seven hits in 6 1-3 innings.

IOC rules out sanctions in Olympics ticket probe

LONDON (AP)—The IOC will not take disciplinary action before the London Olympics against officials accused of illegal ticket sales.

The IOC opened an ethics investigation last month after Britain's Sunday Times newspaper reported that national Olympic committee officials and ticket agents in several countries were willing to offer tickets on the black market.

The paper turned its evidence over to the IOC, which was still reviewing it.

The evidence was a "huge file," IOC President Jacques Rogge said Saturday, and a decision would likely take months.

"(There is) more than 20 people involved and a lot or organizations and commercial ticket resellers," Rogge said. "The rights of the defense require everyone has the chance to explain his or her case. We expect the results of that probably by the end of September, beginning of October, because it is a huge work."

The IOC could have provisionally suspended any implicated officials or barred them from attending the games but the IOC executive board decided against that because hearings would still take some time.

Meanwhile, Rogge downplayed fears that wearing the wrong kind of logo on a T-shirt could cause a ticket holder to be denied entry to an Olympic venue.

Rogge said Saturday that no action would be taken against individuals if they wear clothing, for example, made by a competitor of official London Games sponsors.

He said the IOC and local organizing committee would not be heavy-handed after head organizer Sebastian Coe told a British radio station on Friday that a person probably would not be allowed into an Olympic venue wearing a Pepsi T-shirt because soft drink rival Coca-Cola was a main sponsor.

"Common sense would prevail," Rogge said, but warned that Olympic sponsors' rights would be protected and a "blatant" attempt at ambush marketing would result in intervention by the IOC and the local organizing committee.

"Our position is very clear. We have to protect the sponsors because otherwise there is no sponsorship and without sponsorship there is no games," Rogge said. "However, you have to be balanced and reasonable and I am sure that is going to be the case."

Rogge added that individual cases would not be pursued by the police.

"LOCOG will have a very, I will say, subtle approach," he said. "But if there is a blatant attempt at ambush marketing by another company or by a group of people with commercial views, then of course we will intervene."

Scott takes 4-shot lead into Open final round

THE OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP

LYTHAM ST. ANNES, England (AP)—The ball tumbled over the edge of a pot bunker and appeared to put Adam Scott in the worst spot he had been all day at the British Open

All he saw was opportunity.

From the wet sand right of the 17th green, Scott had to clear two more pot bunkers to reach the green, with the flag only five paces from the edge. Scott was thinking about birdie, not trying to save par, so he confidently told caddie Steve Williams, "I can handle this." The shot came out pure, trickled by the cup and settled a foot away.

The more relevant questions are one round away.

Can he handle a four-shot lead, knowing this is a year when no lead appears safe? Can he handle a leaderboard with four major champions among the top six names, including Tiger Woods? Can he handle the wind that is expected to finally arrive at Royal Lytham & St. Annes?

"I'm just happy to be in this position," Scott said. "To be honest, I'm really excited about tomorrow."

Scott has never had a better chance to end his long wait for a major - and he owes much of that to his long putter. He stayed in the game early with two key par saves, pulled away with three birdies around the turn and was solid at the end Saturday for a 2-under 68 and a four-shot lead over Graeme McDowell and Brandt Snedeker.

It's the fourth time in the last nine majors that a player had a four-shot lead with one round to go. Rory McIlroy at the 2011 Masters is the only player who didn't win. Scott has been so steady all week that he has put himself in position to become only the fourth Open champion with all rounds in the 60s.

"It was all pretty solid stuff, considering the circumstances and how much trouble there is on this golf course," Scott said.

Scott narrowly missed a 20-foot birdie putt on the final hole that would have given him a share of the 54-hole Open scoring record. He settled for 11-under 199 and will play in the final group with McDowell, who had a 67 to get into the final group for the second straight time at a major.

Snedeker, who went from a one-shot lead to a six-shot deficit in seven holes, birdied two of his last three holes to salvage a 73.

Right behind them were three major champions, starting with the guy who has won 14 of them. Woods recovered from a sloppy start and was within three shots of the lead on the front nine until Scott pulled away. Woods missed a short par putt on the 15th and didn't give himself many good looks at birdie on the back nine for a 70, leaving him five shots behind. Woods has never won a major when trailing going into the last round.

Three-time major champion Ernie Els was solid in his round of 68 and was six back, along with former Masters champion Zach Johnson, who had a 66.

Even so, the biggest challenge might be the weather. If the forecast holds true - and there's been no reason to believe that - the greatest defense of links golf could finally arrive with wind projected to gust up to 25 mph.

"It will be in Adam's hands tomorrow if the conditions are as straightforward as they have been the last few days," McDowell said. "Throw a bit of wind across this course like perhaps they are forecasting, he will have to go and work a lot harder, and he will have to go win it.

"He's going to have to go win it anyway, for sure."

McDowell was seven shots behind as he walked up to the 13th green and found three birdies coming in to get into the last group, just as he was at Olympic Club last month in the U.S. Open, where he was one putt away from forcing a playoff.

Snedeker opened this championship by playing 40 holes without a bogey, and then he couldn't buy a par. He had to blast backward out of a bunker, chunked a pitch shot from the fairway, missed short putts and was reeling.

Adam Scott of Australia lines up a putt on the first green at Royal Lytham & St Annes golf club during the third round of the British Open Golf Championship, Lytham St Annes, England, Saturday, July 21, 2012.

Snedeker rolled in a birdie on the 16th and stretched out his arms in mock wonder, and then finished with a birdie that could bode well for Sunday.

"It's just one of those things where you've got to find out if you have some guts or don't," he said. "I could have packed up and gone home today, but I didn't."

Scott was becoming a forgotten star until he switched to the long putter in February of last year, and it has been the biggest reason for the turnaround - his runner-up at the Masters last year, winning his first World Golf Championship at Firestone, and now on the cusp of his first major.

Showing nerves on the opening tee, he hit into a bunker and played a beautiful shot from the back of the wet sand to 8 feet, holing the putt for par. Scott made another par putt from the same distance on the third hole. And in the middle of his run of birdies—including a 30-foot putt on the eighth—he escaped with par on the 10th hole by making one from 18 feet.

"To make a nice putt like that on the first and make par is obviously very settling," Scott said. "And then to do the same thing on 3, that's been a hole that I haven't parred this week. From there on, I was very settled into the round and started hitting fairways and greens."

He played it safe on the back nine, giving himself a few good looks, but mostly making sure he didn't get into position for big numbers.

"That's what I felt I needed to do," Scott said. "I didn't need to take any risks out there."

The only drama left at the end of the round was the size of Scott's lead and whether Woods could get into the final group for another reunion with Williams, the caddie he fired last summer in a split that remains acrimonious.

McDowell took care of that with a late surge, starting with birdies on the 13th and 14th holes, and a 15-foot birdie putt on the 17th.

"I kind of felt the tournament perhaps slipping away from me a little bit and really had to dig deep for some patience," McDowell said. "From about the 14th tee onwards, it's probably about as good as I've swung the club all week."

Snedeker's bogey-free streak—the longest to start a major championship since at least 1995—ended with a three-putt from just short of the fifth green, and it spiraled from there. With his ball a foot away from a 4-foot bunker wall, he played back toward the fairway and hit a superb pitch from 40 yards to escape with bogey on the sixth. After that, nothing went his way until the end of the round.

Woods rallies, but still faces big deficit

LYTHAM ST. ANNES, England (AP)—When Tiger Woods rolled in a 60-foot putt on the sixth hole, it looked as though he was ready to make a charge at the British Open.

The fist pump. The big smile. The roar of the gallery, drifting across Royal Lytham & St. Annes.

All the signs were there.

A couple of hours later, Woods tapped in for par at No. 18.

The charge had fizzled. There was still a lot of work to do.

The good news for Woods is he didn't collapse Saturday, even after a poor start, as opposed to his dismal weekend performance at the U.S. Open last month. But he's never won any of his 14 major championships by rallying in the final round, and he'll have to make up a daunting five-shot deficit if he's going to snatch the claret jug from Adam Scott.

Woods shot a par-70 that kept him in the game.

Just barely.

"Well, I turned it around," Woods said, looking for the bright side. "I got off to an awful start and battled back and got myself right back in the mix again going into tomorrow. I'm right there."

Well, not quite.

Woods began the day four strokes behind Brandt Snedeker, the 36-hole leader. Now, the deficit between Woods and the new leader is even larger. Plus, there's two players between Woods and the top spot. Snedeker, who had a miserable day but rallied at the end, and Graeme McDowell, who was solid all the way, are four strokes behind Scott's 11-under 199 total. Next is Woods at 204.

On moving day, he moved the wrong way, raising the very real possibility that the longest major drought of his career—a little over four years since he hobbled to victory at the 2008 U.S. Open—will carry on at this Open.

Of course, it could've been worse. Woods started the day by running his tee shot over the green at the par-3 first hole. A tentative chip came up 8 feet short, and he missed the putt. After another bogey at the third, it appeared he was headed for a repeat of the last major championship.

Woods was actually tied for the 36-hole lead at the U.S. Open, but a 75 on Saturday wiped out his chances.

This time, at least, he rallied.

That birdie putt at No. 6, rapped from one side of the green to the other, turned the tide. Woods rolled in a much shorter birdie at the next hole, came up about an inch short of a third straight birdie from the fringe at No. 8, then stuck his tee shot at the par-3 ninth to 4 feet, setting up yet another birdie.

"Considering that I got off to such a bad start, I figured if I could get to 1-over par or even for the day through the turn, that would have been a positive going to the back nine," Woods said. "I actually happened to turn at 1 under for the day, which was a bonus."

Woods had a prime opportunity to take off another stroke at the par-5 11th, but he misread the putt and settled for par. Another misjudgment at the 15th led to bogey, pretty much snuffing out any chance of getting on a roll coming to the clubhouse.

CNMI to face PH, Guam in tackle football

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Football League Association is forming a men's team that will play tackle football exhibition matches against the Philippines and Guam in the last quarter of this year.

The first game is scheduled for Oct. 20 on Saipan with the host facing the Philippine Punishers. The second match is slated for Nov. 10 in the Philippines and the final game is set back home on Dec. 1 with the CNMI meeting Guam.

Slots are still available and practices are expected to start soon at the Airport field.

The coaching staff is made up of head coach John Blanco, offensive coordinator Dave Attao, defensive coordinator Keith Nabors, linebackers coach Paul Camacho, linebackers/defensive line coach Chico Reyes, defensive backs coach Ian Carr, quarterbacks coach Joe Ocampo, defensive line coach Dave Ada, offensive line coach Will Hunter, wide receivers/running backs coach Jeff Boyer and running backs coach Glenn Palacios

"Some of the staff will be serving as player/coaches and there is always possibility that more coaches and people wanting to step out being named as the weeks and months progress," Blanco said in an earlier email sent to *Saipan Tribune*.

Blanco also hinted about starting a youth league, hopefully sometime in 2013.

"Although the men's game is currently our focus, our main goal is not really the reestablishment of an adult league. We are certainly not ruling out the possibility of a 2013 season but it is important to note that the CFLA has its sight set on a bigger prize: the creation of not only a youth league for 11-14 age group, but the establishment of a high school junior varsity and varsity program here on Saipan," he said.

"The planning is still in the early stages but we aim to have something in place in the near future, hopefull, as early as 2013. We are currently working out the details and will have more info soon," Blanco added.

Meanwhile, the CFLA's 2012-2013 moard members include commissioner Eric Atalig, chairman John Blanco, vice chairman Jeff Boyer, league coordinator Mark Rabauliman, head official Glen Dikito, public information officer Kelley Butcher, and treasurer Edmund Villagomez.

For more information, contact Blanco at johnsblanco@gmail.com.

KABIRIEL

From Page 28

"I either quit a race due to asthma attacks or get beaten in the past two long distance races I joined in, so it's good to be back and win this Hyatt run," said Kabiriel, adding that the switch in sports made him slowed down in running, as he spent little time cruising along Beach Road for practice runs.

"I am into canoe racing now and in fact right after this run, I am going to Susupe for another race. I am really happy that I was able to finish this half marathon and win it too," said Kabiriel, who just placed third to Ronald Villafria in the half marathon during the Saipan Festival of Runs in March this year.

Kabiriel and Villafria were together at the PIC turnaround, but the latter slowed down on their way back to Micro Beach due to cramps to settle for second place with a time of 1:45:25. Cramps hit Villafria as soon as they made their turn at the fire station in front of the American Memorial Park, but he decided to go on and pace himself to complete the race.

Joining Kabiriel and Villafria in the Top 3 was Doug Hartig, who submitted 1:53:04.

Mamiko Oshima-Berger came in third overall, and first in the women's division, despite a two-monthlong layoff from road running. The veteran runner timed in at 1:52:05 and was the lone female entry to complete the race under two hours. Women's second placer Pipit Survaningsin recorded 2:19:10, more than four minutes ahead of third finisher Roxie Lamar (2:23:36).

The Top 3 placers in the men's and women's divisions received medals and gift certificates from Hyatt Regency Saipan during the awards banquet held at poolside of the Garapan hotel.

Age group winners also got medals and gift certificates. The list include 60-and-above winners Fred Camacho (2:09:30); over 50's Joshua Berger (2:20:10), and 30 to 49's Paul Anthony (1:55:59).

Other half marathon finishers were Adam Hardwicke (2:03:36), Tamio Nishikido (2:17:33), Jude Loste (2:20:20), Manny Sitchon (2:21:43), Brad Ruzsala (2:49:11), and Ben Babauta (3:03:03).

Last Saturday's half marathon also had a team competition with four runners combining their times to determine the Top 3 winners.

The quartet of Oshima-Berger, Anthony, Kabiriel, and Villafria ruled the team event with a total time of 6:90:28. Camacho, Hartig, Hardwicke, and Loste finished second, while Berger, Sitchon, Lamar, and Nishikido rounded the Top 3.

Meanwhile, winners in the 10K race will be published in *Saipan Tribune*'s Tuesday edition.

7 WEIGHT

From Page 28

bined field of 19 competitors.

In addition, Universal Alliance's Ryan Bustamante settled for middleweight silver, but took the welterweight gold over a field of 16 fighters, while Marianas Elite's Derek "El Peligro" Rangamar triumphed over 25 other featherweights. Trench Tech's Shane "Pikaboo" Alvarez denied Bustamante of a lightweight crown and seized the gold over a field of 20, while Guam's Shane Aguon was crowned bantamweight champion over a dozen challengers. Trench Tech's rising heavyweight star Mylo "Bam Bam" Lassiter rolled over four other brutes.

Guam fighters are expected to return this year so Trench Tech president Cuki Alvarez is encouraging young local talents to come out and challenge the visitors. Over 50 participants turned out last year and organizers are hoping to match or even exceed that number next month.

Notably, Trench Tech will be holding this year's Art of War 7 on its new 30x30 training mats. The group also purchased new boxing gloves and punching bags as they are still recovering from a fire that burned down their old gym in San Antonio in February this year.

Monster Energy, Pepsi, and Docomo Pacific are sponsoring the event.

Form more information, contact Alvarez at 483-4MMA (4662).

SCHULER

From Page 28

The CNMI did a great job defending Macau's attackers in the first 20-plus minutes of the match before Ho Man Hou found Chan Kin Seng open in the 27th minute for a shot to the right post and into the goal. Macau, which scouted the CNMI in the latter's 1-3 loss to Guam last Wednesday, then got another one 13 minutes later, as this time Ho found himself near the goal.

Down at 0-2, the CNMI equaled Macau's aggressiveness on offense early in the second half, leading to a Schuler goal. However, that was the only time the Commonwealth bets scored, while Macau drained three more with one coming from a penalty kick.

With the victory, Macau just need to beat host Guam to win Round 1 and advance to the next phase of the qualifier and face Chinese-Taipei and North Korea in Hong Kong in December.

Guam and Hong Kong were playing in the qualifying decider last night. A Guam victory will move the host to the second round anew after making the cut in 2009. Guam drew Macau in the 2009 qualifier to barge into the second round. A draw in last Sunday's crucial match this time will put Macau in the second round due to the goal differential.

Meanwhile, Hong Kong ruled the women's division after beating Guam last Saturday, 4-3. Hong Kong also won over the CNMI last Thursday, 0-11. Guam finished second with one win (against the CNMI, 6-0) and one loss.

Hong Kong barged into the second round competition that will be played in China also later this year. Other women's qualifiers in the second round have yet to be determined.

YOUR BALLS

From Page 28

Cabrera. The two other runs were scored off errors.

Your Balls got four runs back in the bottom side in the form of a three-run blast by Byron Kaipat and a solo shot by his brother, Kyle. However, Man Amigos countered with a pair two-run bomb from Jerry Ayuyu and Roy Celis for their 9-4 advantage.

An eight-run bottom of the third quickly moved Your Balls in front, 12-9. It had nine hits in the third, including a two-run homer from Byron Kaipat, an RBI double from Giovanni Ayuyu, an RBI base smash from Shane Igisiar, and a three-run homer from Jun Kaipat.

Your Balls stretched the lead to five, 15-10, after the fourth inning, as it added three runs off a two-run shot by Kyle Kaipat and an error.

Your Balls remained in control, 18-12, after five frames thanks to another three-run homer by Byron Kaipat. Your Balls then held its rivals to four runs in the final stand. Ayuyu was credited for the three runs in Man Amigos' final push with his long ball before Your Balls secured the victory.

Meanwhile, the third-seeded Gagu Eyez routed the No. 1 Warriors in six innings of last Friday's playoffs, 13-3, to advance to the next round. Also last Friday, No. 3 Elias slipped past No. 5 Familia, 16-14, in the single-elimination playoffs of the men's bottom six.

The Warriors will face Saipal (8) tonight at 6:30pm, while reigning women's champ Sakudi (1) collides with the Rookies (5) at 7:30pm. Bottom six's Talu Fahn (3) faces the G-Ballers (1) at 9:30pm.

Elias 16, Familia 14

Elias put up six quick runs in the opening frame off as many hits, including a three-run homer from Gary Cruz and a two-run shot from JP Sablan. Glen Camacho broke the ice with an RBI single.

Elias remained in front, 8-2, after the second inning off an error and a sacrifice fly by BJ Nicolas. Familia's Kolin Reyes and JD Dikito bashed solo homers in the bottom portion.

Familia rallied in the third with seven hits to pull within two, 7-9. Lawrence Dikito led off with a solo blast, which was followed by an RBI single by Reyes, a sacrifice fly by Preston Basa, and another RBI smash from Nick Guerrro.

Familia then added a couple runs in the fourth inning off an error and a sacricie fly by Joe Guerrero and then seized control, 12-10, in the fifth after another early error, an RBI double by Nick Guerrero, and an RBI base knock by Lawrence Dikito

Elias' Mel Manahane busted an RBI double in the top of the third and teammate Glen Camacho bagged an RBI single in the top side of the fourth. Elias came up cold in the fifth, but surged in front, 14-12, in the sixth, thanks to a sacrifice fly by Mike Cruz and a clutch three-run blast by Nicolas. Elias managed a pair of insurance runs in the seventh inning off an error and a base poke by Delvin Manahane, and contained Familia to just two runs in the final stand.

Gagu Eyez 13, Warriors 3

After two scoreless innings, Gagu Eyez made it to the board first with three runs off three hits and two errors. Tyrone Omar bagged an RBI single and Nokki Saralu hit a two-RBI base rip.

The Warriors immediately tied it back up in the bottom frame of three hits and two errors, but were held to just two hits for the remainder of the contest.

Gagu Eyez trotted ahead, 9-3, in the top of the fourth with the help of some defensive fumbles. Juan Tenorio bashed an RBI double and Jesus Iguel lifted a sacrifice fly, while the four other runs came off errors.

Gagu Eyez's Jack Sablan crushed a three-run homer in the fifth inning to put his team on top, 12-3, and Derek Sablan scored off a fielder's choice in the top of the sixth for the mercy rule. The Warriors were hemmed up in a double play in the final stand to end their comeback attempt.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	57	37	.606	_
Baltimore	50	44	.532	7
Tampa Bay	49	46	.516	8 1/2
Boston	48	47	.505	9 1/2
Toronto	47	47	.500	10

Central Division

Detroit	51	44	.537	_
Chicago	50	44	.532	1/2
Cleveland	47	47	.500	3 1/2
Kansas City	40	53	.430	10
Minnesota	39	55	.415	11 1/2

West Division

Texas	56	37	.602	_
Los Angeles	51	44	.537	6
Oakland	50	44	.532	6 1/2
Seattle	41	55	.427	16 1/2

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Washington	54	39	.581	_
Atlanta	52	42	.553	2 1/2
New York	47	47	.500	7 1/2
Miami	44	50	.468	10 1/2
Philadelphia	41	54	.432	14

Central Division

Cincinnati	54	40	.574	_
Pittsburgh	53	40	.570	1/2
St. Louis	49	45	.521	5
Milwaukee	44	49	.473	9 1/2
Chicago	38	55	.409	15 1/2
Houston	34	61	.358	20 1/2

West Division

San Francisco	53	41	.564	_
Los Angeles	51	44	.537	2 1/2
Arizona	46	48	.489	7
San Diego	40	56	.417	14
Colorado	36	57	.387	16 1/2

BRITISH OPEN SCORES

LYTHAM ST. ANNES, England (AP) — Scores Saturday in the British Open at 7,086-yard, par-70 Royal Lytham & St. Annes:

Third Round

Adam Scott	64-67-68	–199
Graeme McDowell	67-69-67	–203
Brandt Snedeker	66-64-73	–203
Tiger Woods	67-67-70	–204
Zach Johnson	65-74-66	–205
Ernie Els	67-70-68	–205
Thorbjorn Olesen	69-66-71	–206
Bill Haas	71-68-68	–207
Thomas Aiken	68-68-71	–207
Bubba Watson	67-73-68	–208
Louis Oosthuizen	72-68-68	–208
Mark Calcavecchia	71-68-69	–208
Matt Kuchar	69-67-72	–208
Dustin Johnson	73-68-71	–209
Kyle Stanley	70-69-70	–209
Luke Donald	70-68-71	–209
Jason Dufner	70-66-73	–209
Vijay Singh	70-72-68	–210
Nick Watney	71-70-69	–210
Anirban Lahiri	68-72-70	–210
Simon Khan	70-69-71	–210
Greg Chalmers	71-68-71	–210
James Morrison	68-70-72	–210
Steven Alker	69-69-72	–210
Keegan Bradley	71-72-68	–211
Matthew Baldwin	69-73-69	–211
Justin Hicks	68-74-69	–211
Alexander Noren	71-71-69	–211
Hunter Mahan	70-71-70	–211
Thomas Bjorn	70-69-72	–211
Peter Hanson	67-72-72	–211
Steve Stricker	67-71-73	–211
Joost Luiten	73-70-69	–212
Padraig Harrington	70-72-70	–212
Harris English	71-71-70	–212
Francesco Molinari	69-72-71	–212
Dale Whitnell	71-69-72	–212
Jamie Donaldson	68-72-72	–212
Garth Mulroy	71-69-72	–212
Simon Dyson	72-67-73	–212
Carl Pettersson	71-68-73	–212
Paul Lawrie	65-71-76	–212
Rickie Fowler	71-72-70	–213
Gary Woodland	73-70-70	–213
Troy Matteson	70-72-71	–213
Rafael Echenique	73-69-71	–213
Jim Furyk	72-70-71	–213
Branden Grace	73-69-71	–213
Greg Owen	71-71-71	–213
Ian Poulter	71-69-73	–213
Miguel Angel Jimenez	71-69-73	–213
Geoff Ogilvy	72-68-73	–213
Toshinori Muto	67-72-74	–213
Lee Westwood	73-70-71	–214
Adilson Da Silva	69-74-71	–214
Sang-moon Bae	72-71-71	–214
K.J. Choi	70-73-71	–214
Pablo Larrazabal	73-70-71	–214
Nicolas Colsaerts	65-77-72	–214
Gonzalo Fernadez-Castano	71-71-72	–214
Yoshinori Fujimoto	71-70-73	–214
Thongchai Jaidee	69-71-74	–214
Ted Potter Jr.	69-71-74	–214
Brendan Jones	69-74-72	–215
Fredrik Jacobson	69-73-73	–215
Rory McIlroy	67-75-73	–215
Richard Sterne	69-73-73	–215
Bob Estes	69-72-74	–215
Retief Goosen	70-70-75	–215
Juvic Pagunsan	71-72-73	–216
Aaron Baddeley	71-71-74	–216
Warren Bennett	71-70-75	–216
John Senden	70-71-75	–216
Lee Slattery	69-72-75	–216
Andres Romero	70-69-77	–216
Chad Campbell	73-70-74	–217
Ross Fisher	72-71-74	–217
Charles Howell III	72-71-74	–217
Rafael Cabrera-Bello	70-71-76	–217
Jeev Milkha Singh	70-71-76	–217
Tom Watson	71-72-76	–219
John Daly	72-71-77	–220
Martin Laird	70-69-82	–221

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Weekend Sports

Basketball teams win championships

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Basketball leagues on Saipan concluded one after another last week.

In the UFO caging at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium, the U14 division of the Docomo Pacific Cup ended with Division of Youth Services/Samahang Manggagawang Filipino winning the crown after clobbering VisMinda/Hi-Five in the finals, 114-44.

In the U20 division of the Docomo Pacific Cup, the finale was a close match with DYS/Bayani working its way back from a 5-point deficit in the final 1:54 of the match to pull off a 74-69 victory.

Still in the UFO league, MDX/Armatech won the Master Budweiser Cup championship after outlasting Bayani/LBT Appraisal in the winner-take-all finals, 78-62. MDX notched its second straight masters title and finished the season undefeated in eight games.

In the Blue Haus caging at the Garapan Basketball Court, DLX/Irish Spring needed extra five minutes to eke out an 81-80 win against QQ Rent A Car and secure the championship.

Over at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court, KFC/Taco Bell downed Team Pogi in the one-game-finals, 68-49.

Other on-going competitions on Saipan continued last week with the Chamolinian league having its slow-pitch league at the Capital Hill Ballfield and Saipan Major League Baseball playing at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios.

In off-island tournaments, the CNMI was represented in two events.

Saipan pro triathlete Mieko Carey was in Yonago City in Japan and joined the Kaike Triathlon. She finished fifth in the women's division despite having stomach problems, timing in at 10:00:27.

In Guam, the CNMI Men's and Women's Nationals participated in the EAFF Asian Cup 2013 Preliminary Competition Round 1 at the Leo Palace in Yona. The Commonwealth's female strikers were the first one to play in the EAFF qualifier and bowed to Guam, 0-6. The Men's Nationals also had their first match against Guam and lost, too, 1-3. The CNMI bets went on to drop their second and last games in the qualifier with the men's falling to Macau, 1-5, and the women's absorbing a 0-11 spanking at the hands of the tough Hong Kong crew.

For good news, athletics' Lia Rangamar and Rachel Abrams notched their second straight NMASA monthly award after making it to the June top performers list. Rangamar took the NMASA Female Athlete of the Month for her bronze medal finish and record-breaking throw in the javelin event of the Oceania championships last month.

Abrams claimed the TSL Foundation/NMASA Female Student Athlete of the Month award for setting a new personal best time in the 100m run and helping the CNMI win a bronze medal in the 4x100m relay race in the Oceania meet.

Sharing the student award honors with Abrams was tennis' Michael Ren, who dominated both the singles and doubles events in the U12 division of the 2012 North Pacific Qualifying Tournament played in Guam last month.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

DYS/Bayani's Chris Mizer, center, challenges the defense of two MDX/Mariana Resort players during their title game in the boys U20 division of the UFO Docomo Pacific Cup at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium last week.

WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

DLX/Irish Spring's Leo Galarse tries to penetrate the defense of QQ Rent A Car during their title game in the Blue Haus caging last week at the Garapan Basketball Court.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

DYS/SMF's Mark Venus makes an and-1 play against a VisMinda-Hi-Five defender during their title game in the U14 division of the UFO Docomo Pacific Cup at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium last week.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

MDX/Armatech's Art Trajano, right, goes up for a finger roll against Bayani/LBT Appraisal's Ed Cosino during their title game in the UFO Masters Budweiser Cup at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium last week.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

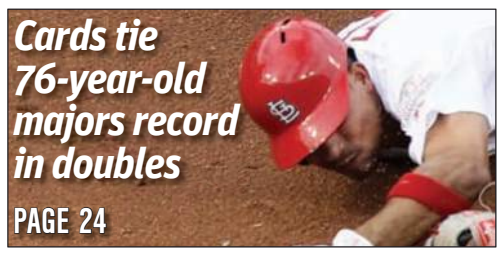
KFC/Taco Bell's Herbert Maranan drives against two Team Pogi defenders during their title game in the DLX/DL JOS caging last week at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

NORMAN DEL ROSARIO

The CNMI Men's Nationals starters pose for a group photo before their game against Guam in the EAFF Asian Cup 2013 Preliminary Competition Round 1 at the Leo Palace in Guam last week.

NORMAN DEL ROSARIO

The CNMI Women's Nationals starters pose for a group photo before their game against Guam in the EAFF Asian Cup 2013 Preliminary Competition Round 1 at the Leo Palace in Guam last week.



Saipan Tribune
Sports

Kabiriel breaks slump, tops Hyatt run

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Ketson "Jack" Kabiriel smiles as he is a few steps away from the finish line of the half marathon event in last Saturday's Hyatt Run For A Cause.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Ketson "Jack" Kabiriel proved he still has what it takes to win a race after prevailing in the half marathon of last Saturday's Hyatt Run For A Cause.

Kabiriel, nicknamed Road Runner Bunny, timed in at 1:37:39 in the 21.097-kilometer race that began at Micro Beach up to the Pacific Islands Club and back to the starting line, posting his first big victory in nearly two years.

See KABIRIEL on Page 26

Schuler gives CNMI second goal in EAFF qualifier

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI Men's National Team avoided a shutout loss to Macau in the EAFF Asian Cup 2013 Preliminary Competition Round 1 after drawing a goal from Kirk Schuler last Friday at the Leo Palace Resort in Yona, Guam.

Schuler put the Commonwealth in the scoreboard in the 51st minute after the CNMI bets went scoreless in the first half. Schuler's goal started on a free kick play for Joe Miller after Macau was called for a foul. Miller, who scored the CNMI's lone goal in their loss to Guam last Wednesday, hit a high ball toward the goal and Schuler completed the play as he kicked the leather in.

Schuler's goal sliced Macau's lead to one, 1-2, however the latter went on to nail three more goals for a 5-1 victory.

See SCHULER on Page 26

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
THE CNMI's Kirk Schuler keeps Macau's Chan Kin Seng away from the ball during their game in the EAFF Asian Cup 2013 Preliminary Competition Round 1 last Friday at the Leo Palace Resort in Yona, Guam.

Your Balls stuns Man Amigos

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantriune.com
REPORTER

Your Balls forced a face-off against Gagu Eyez in the men's upper bracket double-elimination semifinals of the Chamolinian Softball Association's 2nd Budweiser Softball after pulling off an 18-16 upset over defending champion Man Amigos last Friday night League at the Capital Hill Ballfield.

Your Balls, which meets Gagu Eyes tonight at 8:30pm, eked out the close win after recovering from a 0-5 deficit and winning the battle of home runs against Man Amigos.

Man Amigos held an early 5-0 lead after the first inning after a two-run homer from Joey Dela Cruz and an RBI from Jeff

See YOUR BALLS on Page 26

WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
Gagu Eyez's Derek Sablan, seen here waiting for the pitch, reached base in all three at bats and scored three runs in their 13-3 rout of the Warriors during their playoff game in the Chamolinian league last Friday at the Capital Hill Ballfield.

7 weight classes in Art of War 7

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantriune.com
REPORTER

Trench Tech Purebred Promotions will be holding the Art of War 7/No-Gi Grappling and Submission Challenge on Aug. 11 at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Bouts will be held in seven weight classes from 11am to 6pm and each participants need to pay only $10 to enter the event. Mixed martial artists are allowed to test their might in multiple weight categories. Weight divisions include pennyweight (100-120-lbs), bantamweight (121-135-lbs), featherweight (136-145-lbs), welterweight (156-170-lbs), middleweight (171-200-lbs), and heavyweight (201-lbs and up).

Last year, Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu Purple belt Keli "The Rukiz" Manglona raised a pair of middleweight and light-heavyweight gold medals after an impressive performance during a coincidental visit back to the CNMI.

The Tinian-born Wand Fight Team and Legion BJJ prospect basically stole the show and went undefeated over a com-

See 7 WEIGHT on Page 26

WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
Trench Tech's Ning "Bo Slice" Cepeda, left, takes down teammate Ron Chisato in last year's Art of War 6 Grappling and Submission Challenge held in Trench Tech Promotions' old gym in San Antonio.